



On song: deputy leader Roy Hattersley and frontbench spokesmen, Michael Meacher, Ann Taylor, Ann Clwyd and John Cunningham, with the Kinnocks at the end of the conference yesterday

Croatia accord as Serbian leader relents

FROM TOM WALKER IN THE HAGUE AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

LEADERS of the warring factions in Yugoslavia agreed yesterday that could eventually lead to the recognition of an independent Croatia and autonomy for the Serbian minority.

But within an hour of the accord being reached at Lord Carrington's peace conference in The Hague, federal forces were bombarding Croatia from land, sea and air, while the army ordered a partial mobilisation under special powers adopted on Thursday.

At The Hague peace talks,

Serbia's hardline nationalist president, Slobodan Milosevic, appeared to make the most significant climbdown of his four years in power when he provisionally recognised Croatia's independence in return for an assurance that the rights of Serbs in Croatia would be guaranteed.

Mr Milosevic, the Croatian leader Franjo Tudjman, and the federal defence minister, General Veljko Kadijevic, also agreed to a new ceasefire under which Croatia would lift the blockade of Yugoslav army barracks while the army would withdraw from its advance positions in the republic and regroup under the supervision of European Community monitors.

Hans van den Broek, the Dutch foreign minister, said that as long as some form of peace could hold, The Hague conference would continue on the assumption that Yugoslavia would be dissolved into a "loose association or alliance of sovereign or independent republics", with no unilateral declared changes in borders. Lord Carrington welcomed the agreement, saying: "This is the first time that the Serbs have recognised the rights of the other republics to self-determination, subject to

a respect for minority rights." But, recognising the escalation of fighting over the past two days, he added: "We've had false dawns before."

In Belgrade, there was scepticism over the chances of the agreement because the leaders of Croatia's rebel Serb minority have always said that the territories under their control would never be part of an independent Croatia. They were not party to yesterday's agreement and as the peace talks were taking place in The Hague, the self-proclaimed Serbian authorities of Eastern Croatia issued their own call-up for all able-bodied men aged between 20 and 60.

Air raid sirens meanwhile sounded in Croatia's capital, Zagreb, as federal forces attacked Croatian forces across the republic. Citizens were seen scurrying to air raid shelters and Croatian television stopped broadcasting.

The apparent breakthrough in The Hague came as the Yugoslav peace conference approached its most critical hour: the end of the three-month moratorium on declarations of independence by Yugoslavia's republics, expected on page 28, col 1

Zagreb raids, page 7

Sir Allan: no charges

By QUENTIN COWDREY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

POLICE decided yesterday not to press charges of kidnapping against Sir Allan Green, QC, who resigned as Director of Public Prosecutions on Thursday after being stopped by police in a London red light district. The Metropolitan police will, instead, issue Sir Allan with a written warning, an action which falls short of a caution. The letter

will not require him to admit any offence, but will remind him of his obligation to act within the law. Charging rates for suspect kidnapping vary between forces but in London the figure is about a third of those reported.

Doubt over future, page 3
Clifford Longley, page 14

Soviet Jews rue exodus to Israel

Disillusioned with the promise of a better life in Israel, Soviet Jews are fighting to go home, reports Richard Beeston

THE prospects of a harsh winter in the Soviet Union this year might be enough to deter the most hardened traveller from venturing into Moscow, but here along Tel Aviv's affluent beachfront hundreds of recent Soviet immigrants are fighting each other for the chance to return home.

In scenes which would embarrass and appal even the most loyal supporter of Israel's right-wing government, Soviet Jews unable to find adequate work or accommodation yesterday mobbed Soviet consular officials in an effort to secure the documents for their return journey. The Soviet consular mission, protected from the crowd by private security guards and armed Israeli police, has been inundated with thousands of applications from Soviet Jews.

One overworked Soviet diplomat, who explained that some Soviet Jews were unable to adapt to life in Israel, said: "Even during the push in Moscow the queues did not go away."

"When we were shown videos in the Soviet Union by the Israelis of what Israel would be like we believed we could improve our lives socially and economically," said Ludmila, aged 32. She arrived in Israel from Kiev eight months ago with her husband, Dimitri, and daughter, Diana. "In fact quite the reverse is true, we have suffered a decline in our standards. Coming here was the stupidest mistake we ever made and we plan to go back as soon as we can."

Her complaints about false hopes deliberately raised, spiralling unemployment, a housing shortage and general hostility from the Israeli public were repeated again and

Continued on page 28, col 6

Kinnock boosts Labour to two-point poll lead

LABOUR has moved into a two-point lead over the Conservatives in the wake of Neil Kinnock's powerful platform oratory and a slick and trouble-free conference.

The Labour leader left Brighton yesterday after hailing the gathering of party activists as a turning point for them and Britain. He was supported in his euphoria by a Gallup poll, conducted immediately after his keynote address on Tuesday, showing that Labour has transformed a 4.5 percentage points Tory lead a month ago into a 2 point Labour advantage.

The survey, for today's *Daily Telegraph*, puts Labour at 41.5 per cent (up 6.5 points), the Conservatives at 39.5 per cent (no change), the Liberal Democrats at 15 per cent (down 4.5) and others at 4 per cent (down 2).

It suggests that Mr Kinnock's oratory has had an impact on political allegiances, shifting support away from the Liberal Democrats

and moving Labour ahead after a batch of polls last weekend putting the two main parties neck and neck.

An unpublished Gallup poll, taken just before Labour's conference, gave the Tories a four-point lead, confirming Mr Kinnock's address has registered with voters.

The poll contains disappointing news for Paddy Ashdown, suggesting that backing for the Liberal Democrats has waned since the boost they got from their conference earlier in September.

Mr Kinnock's address on Tuesday was hailed as one of the best of his eight years as Opposition leader. Some commentators rated it the most convincing performance by a would-be prime minister since Harold Wilson's "white heat of the technological revolution" battle cry in 1963.

The Labour leader, ending a week that has seen his authority greatly strengthened, sent euphoric delegates away with a prediction that the next

time they met Labour would be in government.

Surrounded on the platform by his shadow cabinet, Mr Kinnock answered claims that Labour had sacrificed principle in pursuit of power and spoke of Labour's policies of patriotism, "the kind of patriotism that springs from the love of the people, the commitment to the people, and not simply respect for the flag flying over it."

The fervour that had gripped the conference after Mr Kinnock's speech on Tuesday was heightened during a razzmatazz climax including a rendering of *The Red Flag*.

One by one, members of the shadow cabinet were called to the rostrum so as to project the strength of Labour's team. Mr Kinnock joined them and broke with tradition to make his second speech of the week, declaring: "We have a programme rooted in principle and we shall govern in exactly the same way."

Gallup's figures are based on a sample of 1,027 voters on October 3 and 4.

Labour in Brighton, page 4
Conference sketch, page 20

Whitehall worried at vulnerable BAe

By ROSS TIEMAN AND RICHARD FORD

CONCERN is growing within Whitehall that the credibility of British Aerospace, Britain's largest manufacturing company, could be further undermined if the company fails to regain sufficient City backing to raise the £432 million needed to underpin its recovery programme.

BAe shareholders meet on Monday morning to vote on the company's fundraising plan. The cash is guaranteed by underwriters, but if the take-up by existing shareholders — mainly City institutions — is embarrassingly low, the company would be vulnerable to stakebuilding by outside companies.

Indications last night, however, were that the rights issue would be backed by institutions, which are likely to be put under pressure to support it despite their severe losses of the past two weeks when the share price collapsed.

Rumours of break-up plans for the company, short of a full

bid, have been prominent in the media all week. Senior Whitehall sources are saying any break-up could be a threat to Britain's industrial base and its expertise in defence technology.

"There is a danger that BAe could disintegrate," said one Whitehall source. "The City has lost confidence in the company's management."

Monday's extraordinary meeting comes only 11 days after Sir Graham Day was appointed temporary chairman in place of Professor Sir Roland Smith, who stepped down over City concern at management failings.

The General Electric Company, headed by Lord Weinstock, is expected to intervene by buying BAe shares only if existing shareholders fail to support the cash call. GEC is determined to stop any other group gaining influence over BAe.

Week Ending, page 21

Call for an EC debate

A GRAND debate on Britain's place in the European Community is demanded today by an eminent group of academics and politicians. They warn the government against negotiating in secret on moves to European economic and political union and then relying on whips to force a compromise deal through parliament. The group, headed by Lord Harris of High Cross and including Viscount Tonyand, the former Speaker, Sir Alan Walters, formerly Margaret Thatcher's personal economics adviser, Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, and the Duke of Devonshire, who was a member of the SDP, say it serves the purpose of party leaders to damp down discussion of the issue. There should be a more open debate on Britain in Europe and they call on people to make their views known to MPs.

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A list of first degree awards from British polytechnics and institutes of technology will appear on Monday



Tabloid army besieges Liz Taylor wedding

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE Israeli commando responsible for security at the pop singer Michael Jackson's ranch in California is said to be ready to go on "Purple Alert" tomorrow to fend off the army of tabloid reporters besieging the estate to catch a glimpse of Elizabeth Taylor's eighth wedding.

Newspapers and television stations from around the world have laid imaginative plans to storm Jackson's verdant Neverland Valley compound to record the actress's nuptials with a former building worker 20 years her junior, Larry Fortensky. Some will try to sneak into the 2,700-acre grounds as waiters or drivers, while others don scuba gear in an effort to swim past guards in the estate's lagoon. A veritable Battle of



Under siege: Taylor and her building worker bridegroom

Britain in the air is likely with paparazzi expected to hire at least ten helicopters, in spite of suspicions that Jackson plans to fly barrage balloons to protect his airspace.

"I'm planning to scuba dive in as Elvis and ask Michael Jackson to do a duet," said Allan Hall, the distinguished America correspondent of *The Sun*, who is one of the many competing in what Americans have dubbed the Superbowl — that is, Cup Final — of tabloid journalism.

Mary Ann Norborn, the Los Angeles bureau chief of *The Globe*, a tabloid weekly, said her paper had

considered using a hot-air balloon for a bungee jump into the midst of the ceremony. Unfortunately, such balloons have been banned in the valley "At our post overlooking the historic Foxen vineyard, *The Globe* will have two helicopters, a refuelling truck and ground crew, a motor home for on-site photo processing, cellular phones and walkie talkies and a hospitality tent," she said.

Even the 160 celebrity guests — who will include Ronald and Nancy Reagan and a Who's Who of Hollywood stars — will be screened with metal detectors to prevent them smuggling in cameras. One leading paparazzi estimates that a snapshot of Taylor and Mr Fortensky exchange

Continued on page 20, col 6
Wedding dress sketch, page 20

Saturday Review

NAKED AMBITION



"Rudy looks best in the nude," confided Natacha Rambova, who loved, created, controlled and married Rudolph Valentino. Today's *Saturday Review* explains how she did it

WEEKEND TIMES

MONMARTRE MAN



Deformed, alcoholic, dead at 36: everyone knows about Toulouse-Lautrec. Or do they? Today's *Weekend Times* looks at the painter behind the posters

MONDAY

FRESHERS' GUIDE



First term at university? You're almost certainly sure of a place to stay. Polytechnic? That's a different story. On Monday *The Times Student Survey* will present a comprehensive guide to accommodation and the other facilities offered by colleges. John O'Leary introduces it today Page 2

Australia's Northern Territory..!

From the wild, rugged beauty of the outback and Ayers Rock to the magnificent wildlife of Kakadu National Park and cosmopolitan Darwin. The choice of Australia and the "top end" is yours with KUONI AUSTRALIA you can tailor your holiday to your own specification, change your hotels, select your meal plan, extend your stay and include or exclude your excursions. KUONI AUSTRALIA means flexible holidays to Australia and the Northern Territory at package tour prices. From escorted tours to independent travel and from 7 nights to as long as you like. All from £948.00 inclusive of hotels and scheduled flights. Ask your travel agent or telephone 0403 741731 (24 hours) for a free brochure.

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Mackay demands a halt to the soaring cost of legal aid



Mackay: plans to control high level of spending

THE Lord Chancellor called yesterday for radical changes in the legal aid scheme to curb rising costs and provide taxpayers with a better service. Lord Mackay of Clashfern said that the net cost of the legal aid scheme had risen by an average of 17 per cent over the past ten years. That could not continue indefinitely.

"In gross terms - what legal aid actually pays the lawyers - we are now spending more than £1,000 million each year and rising," he told 300 legal aid solicitors gathered in Coventry to discuss the future of the system.

Lord Mackay said that he had responsibility to provide the means for "reasonable access" to justice and for controlling the high

level of spending. "But I am not in a position to procure the necessary means at any price and on any terms. We are just about at the limit of what is supportable without radical changes."

He intended to take steps to secure better value for money and to raise standards. Lawyers had paid more attention to standards of behaviour than to standards of competence in recent years, resulting in a level of competence that was far from uniform.

He outlined plans for a "radical overhaul" of the system for paying solicitors and for quality control over the service that they provide. On criminal legal aid, he spoke of his plans to bring in a system of fixed fees in the magistrates'

The Lord Chancellor has told legal aid solicitors they must raise standards and give better value for money. Frances Gibb reports

courts, where lawyers will be paid by the type of case and not according to how long it takes.

Those plans, now being negotiated, are unlikely to be brought in before next year, however, having been delayed by differences between the Law Society and the Lord Chancellor's officials over the details.

On the civil side, where lawyers complain of having to wait up to three years to be paid for work already billed, Lord Mackay said that he was launching a new

payment scheme to reward "good quality work by timely recompense".

A pilot scheme for personal injuries work will be set up next year. Solicitors will be paid at each stage of a case and not have to wait until the end.

The Lord Chancellor also mentioned the government's franchising proposals, under which certain legal aid firms will be contracted to provide legal aid under strict quality criteria in return for financial incentive. He said that that

policy insisted "that practitioners come up to scratch".

There was a disappointed reaction among legal aid lawyers, who said that the Lord Chancellor had offered little comfort at a time when their practices were in difficulty. Julian Linskill, a Liverpool solicitor, said that his firm had a turnover of more than £1 million a year. Yet it was owed £250,000 in fees already billed and had a rolling backlog of £100,000 in magistrates' courts bills. His firm had overrun its overdraft for the first time in 18 years.

"How can I look forward to the long-term future of the practice when I can't be paid efficiently and now?" he asked. "You tell me I must have regard to providing the

client with a quality service when it is not certain that the next phone call won't tell me to close the doors of the practice."

Philip Ely, president of the Law Society, accepted that the government faced a dilemma over legal aid and he accepted the inevitability of some firms being selected as "preferred suppliers". That could provide benefits for all, but he said that legal aid work would be concentrated in fewer firms. "It's likely that there'll be a shake-out of the also-rans with a number of firms fading away by merger or disintegration where they are under-resourced and don't have the skilled legal personnel, management aptitude or capital to succeed in the changing climate."

Rapid growth leaves polytechnics short of student rooms

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

RAPID expansion has left polytechnics struggling to house new students at the start of the academic year, while almost all universities have been able to guarantee students a residential place, according to a survey, full details of which will be published in *The Times* on Monday.

Although returns from the 32 polytechnics in England and Wales suggest that this year's increase in student numbers will be less than predicted, few have sufficient accommodation of their own to cater for even half of their new students. Universities, which have been expanding more slowly and have fewer local students, have a much greater housing stock to fall back on.

The survey shows wide variations in the numbers of extra students arriving at universities this week. Only Durham University and Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, were unable to guarantee first-year students accommodation, although Salford Uni-

versity and the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, could not fulfil their promise to some late arrivals. Only seven polytechnics owned or rented enough accommodation to make such a guarantee. Some are still taking additional students, although student unions say many newcomers are being forced into poor and often expensive private housing.

The survey also shows that large numbers of last year's students dropped out of some polytechnics in their first term. Many institutions are reluctant to reveal drop-out rates or unable to pinpoint the numbers for a particular term, but the returns suggest a higher rate in polytechnics than in universities.

The National Union of Students said yesterday that drop-out rates and accommodation shortages were directly related to government policies on student support. A spokeswoman said: "Students have a right to expect safe, affordable accommodation, and colleges

have a right to expect sufficient funding to provide this. We need a system that does not lead to the pack-the-in, pile-them-high philosophy being forced on colleges now."

John Liskick, spokesman for the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, said overseas students were guaranteed a residential place and priority was given to newcomers whenever necessary, but many polytechnic students were not school leavers and did not need accommodation. About half of polytechnic students are over 21, many living locally and on part-time courses.

"Generally speaking, universities are on big green-belt campuses with plenty of room for new residences," he said. "Polytechnics tend to be bang in the middle of the community, where it is difficult to build. They have always had fewer resources than universities but, now that they are able to borrow, many polytechnics are using the money they raise for building."

New funding systems for universities and polytechnics encourage expansion to meet the government's target of one school-leaver in three entering higher education by the end of the century. Admissions bodies have predicted increases in enrolments of up to 20 per cent at polytechnics and 7 per cent at universities, but *The Times* survey shows the two sectors much closer together.

Although six universities reported that they had taken no more students than in 1990, and St Andrews University was down slightly on last year's figures, some have expanded intake by 20 per cent or more. Loughborough University has taken 30 per cent more into first-year courses.

Although some polytechnics had expanded by more than 20 per cent, most said they were taking about 10 per cent more students in the new year. Only Bristol and Teesside polytechnics were not planning an increase.

Giving credit, page 21

Freshers get rooms with a sea view at holiday camp

By RONALD FAUX

AS STAFF at Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston, comb the town's property market for rooms and houses for a new influx of students, 391 freshers are settling into chalets at Pontin's holiday camp at Southport, 17 miles away.

More than 3,000 new students arrived in Preston this week to join the fast-expanding polytechnic. "Unfortunately it is expanding faster than the rate at which accommodation can be found," Veena Bhatti, president of the students' union, said. "This happens every year and every year it seems to come as a surprise."

A free coach service is provided for the journey between Southport and Preston and the students pay a subsidised rate of £21 a week for their chalets until rooms closer to college can be found. The arrangement with Pontin's is temporary, college managers say, avoiding the need for emergency accommodation on mattresses in sports halls.

The college has 7,500 full-time students, and finding places for them to live is a big task. The success rate has not impressed the students' union, whose latest newspaper depicts Brian Booth, the rector, as Henry V standing before a battle-weary host after Agincourt, with the headline: "Poly boss Brian Booth addresses the staff before the start of term". The paper goes on to complain that students have nowhere to live, park, sit or hang their coats. It has not

been a good week for the students, mingling with end-of-season holidaymakers at Pontin's. Gale-force winds whistled between the chalet blocks and jostled a forlorn fleet of plastic boats on a pleasure pond as Clare Bell, aged 18, returned from a search for a home closer to college. "I've walked miles today trying to find a place," she said.

The chalet, shared with Joanna Barnard, aged 18, was heated by an electric fire and cooker, both fed by a 10p meter. Joanna said: "It takes three quarters of an hour to get from Preston, that means 90 minutes a day travelling time, which is not good. Everyone is worried they will be the last ones left here."

Other students at Pontin's complained that reaching college for the first lectures meant getting up by 7am to catch the coach and that chalets designed for summer holidays were unsuitable when hampered by autumn gales.

The college said yesterday that some students would spend only a few days at Southport, but others may be there six weeks while it sought homes in Preston. A new £5 million hall with 400 study bedrooms near the main campus had eased pressure this week and work began this week on a 450-bed hall in Preston.

Meanwhile, a campaign continues to encourage new landlords to come forward and profit from the student demand.



Kiss of friendship: a Kuwaiti girl whose father is a prisoner of war in Kuwait greeting John Major at Downing Street yesterday. The prime minister later told the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, that Britain would continue to press for the return of Kuwaiti detainees still held in Iraq after the Gulf war (Richard Ford writes). Mr Major also pledged that Saddam Hussein would not be allowed to rebuild a nuclear, biological and chemical weapons capability with which Iraq could intimidate its neighbours and threaten the stability of the region.

Wildcat strikers form new union

By KERRY GILL

THE Offshore Industry Liaison Committee, responsible for the wildcat strikes in the North Sea last year, has formed a breakaway offshore union outside the TUC, threatening an inter-union war in the offshore oil and gas industries.

The committee intends to poach members from the official unions, believed to represent more than 6,000 workers employed in the British sector of the North Sea, although there are about 25,000 non-union employees. Ronnie McDonald, chairman of the unofficial body created

in 1989 to fight for improved safety, union recognition and negotiating rights, said the union was formed because established unions had failed adequately to represent the workers.

He said the decision was backed by meetings in Glasgow and on many platforms and rigs. He admitted that the trade union movement would regard the new union as a "scab outfit" but added that it would have been moral cowardice not to form it.

The action, which has a large core of support, will face union members with a dilemma: whether to cut connections with existing unions or remain with the official bodies. It also presents the established unions with the prospect of thousands of members leaving, weakening their position when negotiating with the oil companies.

Mr McDonald hoped the committee would eventually be taken into the "bosom of the Labour and trade union movement". The committee, which aims initially to recruit more than 3,000 members offshore, already has offices in Aberdeen, Newcastle upon Tyne and Glasgow and it is expected that more branches will be opened.

The move came after a decision by the existing unions to form a sub-committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Kinnock tribute to science shows talent for invention

Labour's list of great inventions were not all British, reports Nick Nuttall

POLITICIANS are not averse to fudging the facts for the sake of a sterling speech and Neil Kinnock would appear to be no exception when it comes to science and technology.

He cited several world-beating British inventions during his opening address at the Labour conference in Brighton on Tuesday which had then been developed and made abroad. A Labour government would change this unsatisfactory state of affairs, he said.

The scientific world, however, might dispute the Britishness of some of the examples given.

"Everyone knows that British scientists invented the first steam engine, the first electric motor and generators and transformers, radio, television, the first jet engine, the first cardiograph, penicillin, the first computer," Mr Kinnock said.

While most of these statements hold good, there might be a few eyebrows raised, especially in North America, concerning radio and the electric motor. The first system of radio signalling is attributed to Mahlon Loomis of Washington DC in a paper published in 1866. Mr Loomis was granted the first patents in July 1872. Even Guglielmo Marconi, the man Mr Kinnock probably had in mind, was Italian, demonstrating the technology in Italy in 1894 before coming to Britain.

The first electric motor of demonstrated the principle of the hologram in Britain, was a Hungarian who was trained in Germany. A spokesman for Johnson Matthey, the company which has played a pivotal role in the development of the catalytic converter, said: "It was actually a German in 1926 who demonstrated a form of catalyst for cleaning up exhausts."

Market anomalies, page 6



Waldegrave: faces strong test at party conference

Cereal crop highest for five years

British farmers have achieved their third highest cereal harvest on record, according to a provisional estimate by the agricultural ministry. The crop is put at 22.7 million tonnes, up from 22.6 million last year. An increase in yields offset a reduction in the crop area.

The wheat totalled 14.3 million tonnes, barley 7.7 million and oats and other cereals 700,000, the ministry estimated. Wheat yields per acre went up by 3 per cent, while the area sown declined by 1 per cent. Barley yields rose 6 per cent, offsetting an 8 per cent decline in acreage.

The harvest is equal in tonnage to that of 1989. Bigger harvests have been achieved in only two other years - 24.5 million tons in 1986 and 26.5 million in 1984.

Mann moves on

Jack Mann will leave RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, on Monday morning to begin the second stage of his readjustment to a life of freedom. The former hostage, aged 77, will spend a last weekend at the base, which has been his home for the past ten days, before leaving for an undisclosed destination in southern England. His wife Sunnie will fly later to Nicosia in Cyprus to prepare their bungalow.

Adler award

Larry Adler the musician accepted undisclosed High Court libel damages yesterday over a book, *The Duke - A Portrait of Prince Philip*, that suggested that he was shunned in the Thursday Club, a luncheon group to which the Duke of Edinburgh belonged. An apology was made by the defendants, The Herald, the author, Hodder & Stoughton, the publisher, and Sir Reginald Bennett, quoted in the book.

Gilmour to retire

Sir Ian Gilmour, Tory MP for Chesham and Amersham, and a former defence secretary, is to retire from the Commons at the next general election. Sir Ian was dismissed from the cabinet in 1981 because of his opposition to Margaret Thatcher's economic policies. After his dismissal he said that she was steering full speed ahead for the rocks. Sir Ian, aged 65, had a majority of 19,440 at the last election.

Champion leads

The women's world chess champion, Maya Chiburdanidze of the Soviet Union, has taken the lead in the women's world chess championship in Manila. In the fifth game the champion won in 42 moves against the challenger, Xie Jun of China.

CORRECTION

An article that appeared on October 3 stated that Robert Fleming/Save and Prosper charged £10 for a stopped cheque. The figure was based on incorrect information in a *Which?* report. Robert Fleming has no charges for stopping cheques.

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QUEEN ELIZABETH 2

Many lawyers hope former DPP will resume advocacy after fall from office

Green is likely to escape suspension after police decision

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

SIR Allan Green, QC, the former director of public prosecutions, is unlikely to face serious disciplinary action by the Bar following his ignominious departure as head of the Crown prosecuting system in England and Wales, legal sources predicted yesterday.

According to well placed sources in the legal establishment, the police decision not to recommend that Sir Allan be prosecuted for kerb-crawling has probably saved him from the further crushing blow of being suspended from the Bar, or even disbarred. This means that Sir Allan, a member of the Bar Council, might return, after a discreet interval, to working as an advocate.

Under the Bar's rules, Sir Allan, stopped by police late on Wednesday night for alleged kerb-crawling at King's Cross, London, will have to present himself before the Bar's professional

conduct committee, whose sanctions range from a verbal reprimand to disbarment. Few, however, expect the committee, chaired by Hugh Carlisle, QC, to opt for a serious penalty, if any at all.

Anthony Scriven, QC, the Bar's chairman, studiously declined yesterday to say whether Sir Allan, who is widely respected within the legal profession, should face further indignity. However, in a clear hint of the hopes many barristers have that Sir Allan will be allowed to return to court work, he added: "I can say that when he's dealt with by the committee, there will be no objection to him coming back to the Bar."

Sir Allan, who had a salary of £77,000 a year as DPP and head of the Crown Prosecution Service, used to be a leading prosecutor at the Central Criminal Court. Although the legal establish-

ment is united in its sadness at his humiliation few lawyers believe that he had any option but to resign after being suspected of having committed a criminal offence. By tendering his resignation immediately to Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney-General, he removed the possibility of a decision on whether he should be prosecuted being made by his colleagues.

Scandals like this week's are rare in the legal profession, but where the offence—real or suspected—is sexual in nature, the fall from grace is always severe. For example, in December 1989, Lord Dervaird, a Scottish High Court judge, abruptly resigned amid allegations that he had been involved in homosexual activity, and this summer, Timothy Parkin, an assistant recorder, resigned after being convicted of kerb-crawling in Leeds.

By contrast, barristers and judges who commit other offences, including drink-driving, seem to escape comparatively lightly. One prominent case being cited yesterday was that of the late Lord Russell of Killowen, a law lord, who continued in his earlier office of an appeal judge in spite of being banned from the road for drink-driving in 1969. Peter Kenworthy-Browne, a registrar in the High Court family division, declined to resign after being fined for drink-driving in May 1989.

Neither the French nor the Italian police bother to prosecute the kerb crawler. In fact, the activity is not regarded as an offence, simply an expression of male sexuality and the law of supply and demand.



Under pressure: Sir Allan Green and his wife, Eva, leaving their London home early yesterday morning

Vice that provokes a Gallic shrug

By BILL FROST AND PHILIP JACOBSON

DALLIANCE with a street walker still spells disaster for prominent public figures in Britain. Elsewhere in Europe, the high and the mighty are free to kerb crawl with impunity, should the humour take them.

The Germans share the same rigid Anglo-Saxon moral code, but only when the 13th commandment—thou shalt not be caught out—has been conspicuously broken.

Neither the French nor the Italian police bother to prosecute the kerb crawler. In fact, the activity is not regarded as an offence, simply an expression of male sexuality and the law of supply and demand.

The downfall of Sir Allan Green passed almost unnoticed in France. Only *Libération*, the left-leaning daily, covered the story under the headline "Sir Allan Trips on the Kerb".

French politicians and public figures with a taste for illicit entanglements far prefer the privacy of a mistress's flat or an up-market brothel to the hurly-burly of Place Pigalle. Such is the nature of the Gallic psyche, however, that no one would care too much if they did parade their

vices in public. Italians take a similarly relaxed view of moral turpitude.

Prostitutes used to line streets in certain areas of Rome and other cities. The threat of Aids has forced many off the kerb, while others now advertise their services in newspaper columns. A recent influx of Brazilian transvestites has also dented trade. Whoremongers in Rome have been traumatised to discover their temporary companions were a little too exotic.

Japan's geishas would never dream of soiling their kimonos on a street corner.

Ritual, discretion and privacy characterise their dealings with the tired soft-wear executive who cannot be bothered to take the Bullet Train home from Tokyo.

Police in the United States regularly swoop on prostitutes, but often allow their clients to walk free. Although custom and practice vary from state to state, it is the girls rather than their clients who are more likely to spend a night in the cells. As elsewhere, leading public figures seldom feature in vice trawls: they realise the importance of not breaking the 13th commandment.

Clarke cuts cash to opt-out schools

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke, the education secretary, yesterday cut the amount that local authorities must pay towards schools that opt out of their control, because of the success of the government's squeeze on the authorities' bureaucracy.

Budgets for grant-maintained schools are pegged to local education authority spending. Because the government has successfully pressed the authorities to devolve more funding to their own schools, those opting out will receive less from them.

Although the reduction will be marginal for each school, savings for some authorities will be sizeable. The level of cut will rise where large numbers of schools opt out.

Grant-maintained schools have been receiving 16 per cent more than others in the state system to match the amount held back by local authorities for administration and central services. Led by the Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils, however, the authorities complained that their extra budget delegation meant that they were now subsidising those opting out.

Mr Clarke responded yesterday by cutting the proportion of grant-maintained schools' budgets reflecting central spending to 15 per cent.

He said that the change would ensure that local authority schools were not penalised, while the authorities would be encouraged to delegate still more of their budgets to schools.

He also announced that the grant could be cut further if more than 15 per cent of an authority's primary or secondary schools opted out. The education department would determine what figure was justified for central costs.

Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, said: "Mr Clarke has yielded to intense pressure, not least from Conservative authorities, which are deeply hostile to opting out, but the financial system for grant-maintained schools remains brazenly stacked in their favour, contrary to the government's promises of financial neutrality. What is needed is independent scrutiny to end the bribery."

Mr Clarke resisted the temptation to end the link with local authority budgets in order to retain the stability and predictability it provides for all types of school.

He fears constant disputes over funding levels without a national system for opting out.

Channel tunnel

Trains will not fit prefab station

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

PASSENGERS alighting at the proposed temporary station for Channel tunnel rail services would be forced to get off at the rear of the quarter-mile-long trains because the platform will be only half their length, it emerged yesterday.

The disclosure came as Eurotunnel, the Channel tunnel operator, unveiled plans to set up a joint venture to build, finance and operate the temporary station to give Kent and Sussex direct access to international rail services when the tunnel opens in June 1993.

The temporary station, at Ashford, Kent, would be made out of Portakabins, providing 2,000 square yards of floor space for customs and immigration services, and a ticket hall and waiting rooms. It would cost £4 million and could be built in a year.

Richard Hope, an independent rail consultant and former editor of *Railway Gazette*, said that while the Eurotunnel scheme was little more than a second-rate solution, it would avoid the frustration and extra cost of travelling to Waterloo to catch an international train.

Mr Hope said that while the Eurotunnel scheme was little more than a second-rate solution, it would avoid the frustration and extra cost of travelling to Waterloo to catch an international train.

Eurotunnel's Portakabin station would not win any "Prize of Wales awards for architectural design", Mr Ford said. "But it will make it politically impossible for the government to take international trains away from Ashford."

British Rail had planned to begin work in March on a £140 million station at Ashford which would have been ready when Channel tunnel services began in June 1993.

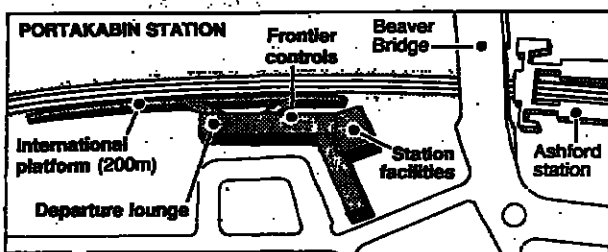
Government delays in approving the scheme mean that it could not be completed in time.

Eurotunnel's scheme, which is in part motivated out of a desire to embarrass the government and bounce it into authorising the BR project, is designed to provide a low-cost, temporary alternative. The platform could be extended to the full length of the new trains but this would add about £1 million to the cost.

John Bennett, a spokesman for BR's European passenger services division, said: "If Eurotunnel were serious about this proposal they would have approached us much earlier than last night. However, we will examine the scheme."

Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's chief executive, said: "We have come up with a Portakabin solution. We still await a government decision to provide a permanent solution. Meanwhile, second-class facilities will have to stand in comparison with the stations now being built in Lille and Roissy, let alone Brussels Midi and Paris Gare du Nord."

Leading article, page 15



Twitchers hark after Alpine owl

By JOHN YOUNG

A WELCOME if unexpected continental guest has touched down at the Craven Arms public house, in the village of Enborne, in Berkshire, in the shape of a Tengmalm's owl, which normally confines itself to the mountains and forests of Scandinavia and the Alps.

The bird has not actually dropped into the pub itself, but has apparently taken up residence in a wood opposite, bringing twitchers in droves to await the nocturnal hoot.

Cathy Rosier, the landlady, said that 100 twitchers had fortified themselves at the bar on Thursday night before going out on patrol. "They were still out there when I went to bed."

The first person to notice the unusual sound was one of her regulars, Nigel Cleere, a birdwatcher, as he was leaving the pub at closing time earlier this week. He promptly telephoned Bird Line, which keeps enthusiasts posted. Hence the prompt arrival of the twitching horde at the Craven Arms.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said that the Tengmalm's sound was quite different from that of the tawny and little owl and would be recognised instantly by experts as something unusual.

● Cold, wet weather in early summer caused a setback to the breeding of several threatened species, including ospreys and red kites, the RSPB says in a report to its annual meeting in London today. Thanks to cooperation by farmers, however, stone curlews enjoyed their best breeding season for many years.



A Tengmalm, whose hoot has set ears a-twitching

Weekend Times, page 5

Meal break delays flights

MORE than 500 airline passengers circled the skies over Scotland yesterday while two air traffic controllers took a compulsory meal break.

The break forced the closure of Glasgow airport for 75 minutes yesterday morning. As the controllers ate, a holiday flight from Florida, another from Palma and two air freighters were barred from landing. The first plane allowed down was the Florida flight, whose pilot reported that one diabetic passenger had forgotten to take an insulin shot and was in discomfort.

The incident was blamed

on sickness and a shortage of controllers in Britain and throughout Europe. It began when one of the three duty controllers reported sick on Thursday night. His two colleagues carried on but by law they had to have the meal break, the Civil Aviation Authority said. To minimise disruption, the controllers decided to take the break together.

A CAA spokesman said that one of the controllers was not fully validated and could not have carried out a full range of duties unsupervised. The alternative would have been for the airport to close for two

and a half hours. "They made what they thought was the right decision, and we stand by that," he said.

● An aircraft carrying the Princess Royal made an emergency landing at Liverpool airport yesterday after the pilot suspected it was struck by a bird.

The incident happened as the British Aerospace 146 jet of the Queen's flight taking the princess to Liverpool on official duties, was climbing after taking off from Northolt, north London.

A spokesman at Liverpool airport said there were no signs of damage to the plane.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Goldsmith: the making of a mogul

That summer, Jimmy met the woman who was to change his life: Isabel Patino. He was 20; she was just 18 and the daughter of Antonio Patino, one of the world's richest men, having inherited \$200m. Isabel's appearance in the



Goldsmith story is so brief and so poignant that it is now difficult to sort out the myth from the reality. But that should not detract from this extraordinary love story, which would stay fixed in Goldsmith's memory as an all too brief period of great beauty and purity.

Ivan Fallon, in the first extract from *Billionaire*, his biography of Sir James Goldsmith - *The Sunday Times* tomorrow

GOOD FOOD
GOOD COMPANY.
GOOD CHEER.
IT'S FAR FROM AN
ORDINARY CHRISTMAS

Conference hailed as turning point for party

By ROBERT MORGAN
AND JOHN WINDER

NEIL KINNOCK made it clear yesterday that he would not indulge in personality politics in the election campaign. Winding up the party conference in Brighton yesterday, he told cheering delegates: "In their efforts to try to save themselves from disaster at the election, the Tories will go to any lengths, they will sink to any depths, stoop to any depths, in their desperate efforts to conquer."

"I say now as I have said throughout: we shall not respond in kind with biliousness and slander for two reasons. First, it sickens the British people. Second, when I hear some attacks on these people [the shadow cabinet] and people up and down the country in local government and trade unionism, people active in our movement and community generally, much as I detest Toryism, I would not do to individuals and families what they try to do to individuals and families."

He summarised Labour policies and said that they would fire the real patriotism of the nation, "the kind of patriotism which springs from the love of the people, the commitment of the people to our land and not simply from respect for the flag flying over us - applied patriotism".

The conference, he said, would prove to have been a turning point for the Labour party and in the history of this country.

"It has combined hard, practical policies with idealism on which those policies are based and from which they grow. We have a programme rooted in principle and we shall govern in exactly the same way. That will make a change from the Tories."

Mr Kinnock, surrounded by his shadow cabinet, said that the conference had shown the dazzling quality of the people who would form the next Labour government. "These people have been brilliant. They are people, as the country now knows, with the talent

for government, and they have earned the chance to be the democratic government of Britain - women and men."

He went on: "Victory is more than within our grasp. What I take the greatest pride and pleasure in is that over those years of construction, of reaching out, of appealing, of listening, we have been earning the trust of people throughout the land. We have earned it by saying what we know to be true and by defending what we know to be right even when it was not always popular."

"Our task is now clear, to build a fairer and freer society. We do not choose between prosperity and compassion as though they were opposites. What we say is that one of the basic reasons for seeking assiduously to build prosperity is so that compassion can be consistent, generous and a matter of right, not a matter of favours. That is the mark of a civilised society."

And he quoted parts of Tennyson's *In Memoriam*:

Ring out the old, ring in the new...

Ring out the grief that saps the mind

Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,

The faithless coldness of the times...

Ring out false pride in place and blood,

The civic slander and the spite;

Ring in the love of truth and right,

Ring in the common love of good...

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;

Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;

Ring out the thousand wars of old,

Ring in the thousands years of peace.

"Let that message of confidence and hope sound across the land," Mr Kinnock said.



And baby came too: Sue Nye, a member of Neil Kinnock's office, with her daughter Rosie at Brighton yesterday. Ms Nye is married to Gavyn Davies, a City economist

Private capital could fund priority projects

By JOHN LEWIS

SHADOW ministers are considering plans to authorise the raising of money on the open market under a Labour government for not only British Rail but for high-priority projects in housing, education, health and energy.

John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, and his economic team are discussing how to inject private capital into worthwhile schemes and removing crucial capital spending from the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR).

The counting of public-sector capital projects as part of the PSBR has been a brake on successive governments worried that a high PSBR will risk a loss of confidence and a run on the pound. Mr Smith,

Margaret Beckett, Chris Smith and others have decided that a Labour government will split the Treasury accounts for the first time to show capital and revenue spending separately. The next step would be to take out capital expenditure.

Talks with the City have been encouraging. Shadow ministers have had an encouraging response when arguing that it would be wrong to pay civil servants by raising money on the market, but that capital investment, showing a proper commercial return, would be different. If Labour does take the step, it will be of wide political significance.

The party constantly comes up against the question: "How would you pay for the public sector schemes you propose?"

John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, has made most of the early running.

John Smith has not quite given him a blank cheque, but he has asked him for detailed proposals for attracting private money. He has talked privately about British Rail floating its own bond, in the way that SNCF has done in France, and leasing back arrangements, with BR putting forward its substantial land assets against borrowing.

Mr Prescott would, for example, want a Labour government immediately to allow BR to borrow £450 million for new north Kent trains. He has also talked about financing the

Channel tunnel fast link and the languishing bus industry in a similar way.

On housing, the shadow Treasury team is having discussions with Clive Soley, the shadow housing spokesman, and Nick Raynsford, former MP for Fulham and now a respected housing consultant.

Britain is at present producing only 40,000 local authority and housing association homes a year. Labour would aim at 50,000 council homes and 25,000 housing association homes, but even that would fall well short of the Institute of Housing estimate that the country needs at least 100,000 homes each year for the next ten years.

The latest policy proposal to set up a national housing

investment bank would help. It would attract private money and distribute it to councils and housing associations.

There is hesitation about the private financing of NHS hospitals. It could smack too easily of the Tory market philosophy that Labour has condemned, but the door is not closed. If the choice is building or not building a hospital and someone comes forward with a practical scheme, it will be examined.

Mrs Beckett said the ideas of using the private market have considerable potential. "There should be real advantage in developing a sound partnership with the private sector. We will not be guilty, as this government has been, of holding back Britain."

But perhaps Labour's biggest problem is that the bar-room talk in Brighton still turned much on what would happen in a hung parliament. Delegates do not quite believe that the party will do it in one go. Hence the great interest in what turned out to be a poor debate on PR (and one which reflected the new mood by showing the PR tide on the conference floor ebbing a little). The subject is still there, however, and it continues to divide both party and shadow cabinet.

For all that, Labour had a good week and one which will put the onus on Mr Major to produce something more than "steady as she goes" in Blackpool. The Tories, too, need to find an instinctive theme to appeal to the electorate and to show, as they did in 1986, that they still have plenty of ideas. "Time for a change" could be a powerful pull.

Close to a winning hand in the last chance saloon

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

THIS week's Labour party gathering may have been bland in between the Sixties songs, but it was effective, a rally rather than a conference.

Neil Kinnock was better focused on Labour's alternative than ever. Roy Hattersley, now, like his leader, in the last chance saloon, has rediscovered his political zest. And the shadow team beneath them, the leadership candidates if it does go wrong after all, displayed their talents. If Gordon Brown had the best jokes, John Smith retains Labour's best line in gravitas.

We sentimentalists in the media may have longed at times for the old Labour party that wore hearts on its sleeves, when a rampant left packed in hundreds at its fringe meetings and when the tension between MPs, constituency delegates and union bosses positively crackled across the conference floor. But this is the age of the compliant party and the sound-bite.

As Neil Kinnock spoke, the party's media professionals were not out on the floor but clustered round television sets. It was not how it was that mattered, but how it looked. And what viewers saw was a confident party, boosted by the fact that the prime minister could not risk a November election, cheered to have reversed the late summer surge for the Tories in opinion

polls and increasingly convinced that its nostrums are coming back into fashion.

Kinnock and Smith, Beckett and Brown, exuded reassurance like company solicitors. The tone of the leader's speech was an optimistic "We too can do it", placed firmly in a European context. While tensions would surely show in government, there does appear to have been a sea change on Europe. "We have been bonded by the Social Charter" was how one union leader put it.

We caught a glimpse of the old passion on the health service, where Labour feels instinctively that it has public support. The delegates feel too that it is Labour which is best placed to profit from the ending of the "public bad, private good" ethos of the Thatcher years. Mr Kinnock has not only restored their will to win but made them feel relevant too.

But you still have to pinch yourself when you hear Labour speakers obsequiously praising their leader in the way they did this week. "Altogether too much Kim II Sung-ism" sniffed one shadow cabinet minister, adding that he hoped Mr Kinnock would not be staying on to 85.

But if much went well this week there remain many unanswered questions. John Smith has told us that the new

50 per cent tax rate will not bite as low as £30,000 a year. But he will not say where it will bite, and Labour will be harried on that throughout an election.

Labour may be winning points on the health service, but where Robin Cook is to get the £6 billion which he says is necessary to cure underfunding remains hopelessly unclear. Behind the scenes, party strategists admit to problems. Labour has not yet, they admit, succeeded in shedding its image as the high tax party.

It is hard for Labour that it seems to have a vested interest in bad news as we begin to edge out of recession. It has not succeeded yet in turning the debate into one about who will best manage a recovered Britain.

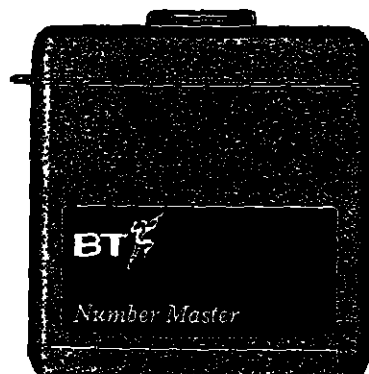
It has still not managed to pin the problems which the country has suffered under Tory government on the popular John Major, although the longer he is in the job the easier that should become.

The flurry over the huge contributions to the Tory party from various millionaires has obscured Labour's problems with the union connection but not removed them. And the much publicised reminder from Tony Benn that "If we've changed our minds to win, we could change our minds when we've won" will enable the Tories to keep exploiting a Labour hidden agenda, as Labour seeks to exploit theirs.

But perhaps Labour's biggest problem is that the bar-room talk in Brighton still turned much on what would happen in a hung parliament. Delegates do not quite believe that the party will do it in one go. Hence the great interest in what turned out to be a poor debate on PR (and one which reflected the new mood by showing the PR tide on the conference floor ebbing a little). The subject is still there, however, and it continues to divide both party and shadow cabinet.

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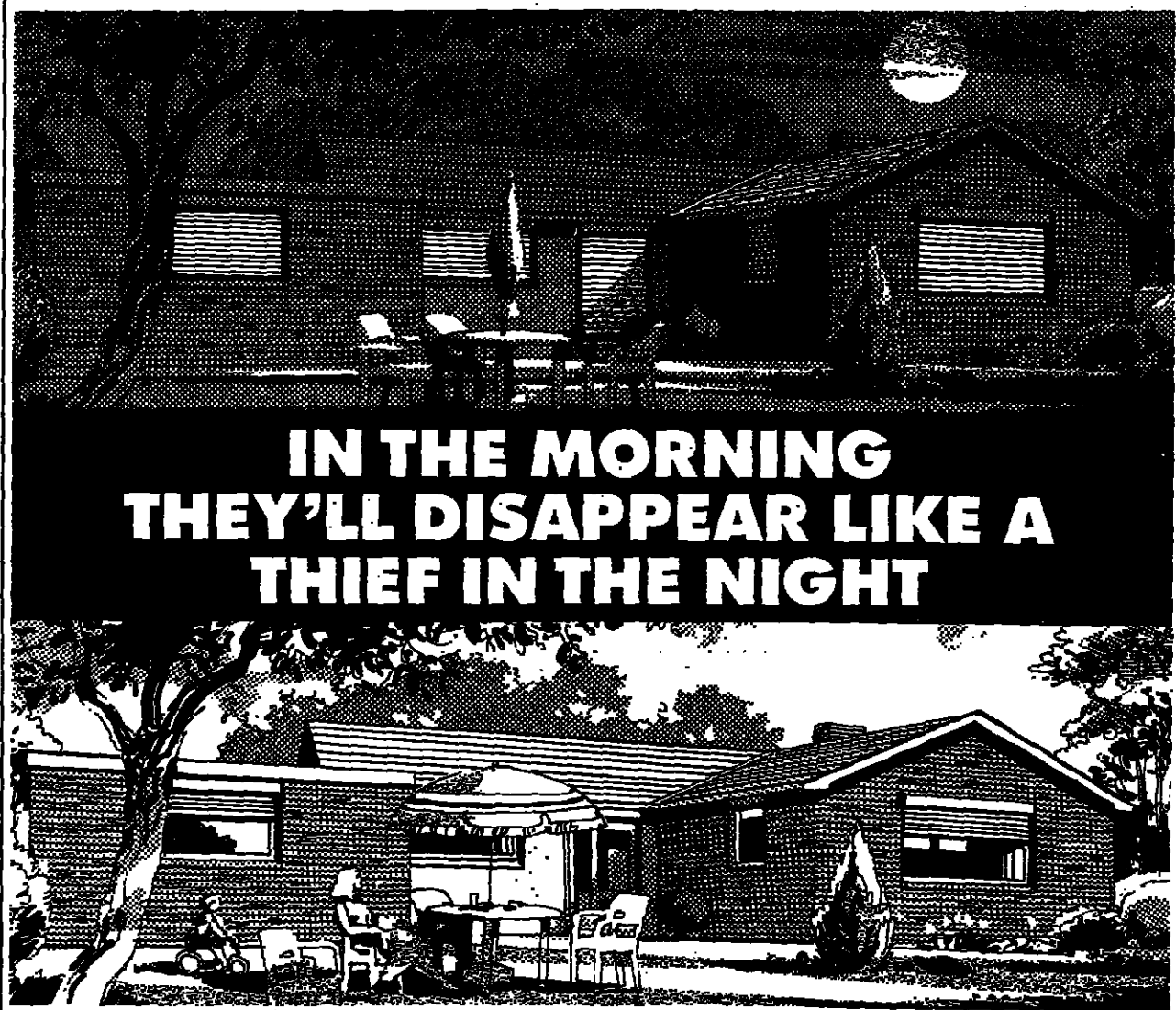
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False claims push up cost of holiday insurance

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

HOLIDAY insurance premiums will rise by up to a half after an upsurge in claims that has left many insurance companies' travel departments in the red.

At least 660,000 people claimed an average of £300 each for lost luggage, medical fees and cancellations last year. Many of the claims are believed to be fraudulent as families hit by the recession tried to offset the cost of their holidays.

Roger Crowther, operations manager for Home and Overseas Insurance, which covers

about five million of the 11 million people who take out travel insurance each year, said: "Fraud has now become the prevalent pastime and there is no doubt that travel insurance premiums are now far too low."

"Many insurance companies are now facing severe losses as a result of the dramatic increase both in the number and amount of the claims being made. We shall simply refuse to accept business in the future unless the premiums are substantially increased to a realistic level."

Norwich Union has also suffered from increased claims and said its holiday premiums would rise by up to a half as a result.

"Many of the claims are, to say the least, dodgy," said a spokesman. "It is surprising to find that no suitcase is ever old, it was always bought yesterday. No one packs Marks and Spencer underwear any more. It is always Christian Dior or other designer labels. And, of course, no one has a receipt."

The Travellers Insurance Association, an offshoot of Commercial Union, said that claims had risen by at least 20 per cent over the past two years. "People are claiming for items that don't exist and hospitals around the world are passing on their own rising costs through patients who they know have travel insurance," it said.

The trend towards long-haul holidays has also hit the insurance companies. An increasing number of tourists who are taken ill are encountering the high medical expenses of the United States and the Far East.

Some of the blame for the problem can be laid at the door of the insurance companies. As new companies entered what appeared to be a lucrative market during the late Eighties, competition forced rates down and most holiday-makers were paying little more than £1 a person to cover a two-week holiday. When the market slumped, the insurers' income fell and this, coupled with the rise in claims, pushed them into a loss.

Police to pay riot victims

NORTHUMBRIA police authority has agreed to pay compensation for damage caused in the Tyneside riots. It is feared that the bill could reach several million pounds. Shops and other businesses were burnt and looted in five nights of street violence last month. Yesterday members agreed that the unrest met the legal definition of rioting, making the authority liable for compensation.

The authority, which has already asked the home secretary for help with the £2 million cost of overtime and extra staff during the riots, is appealing for more money to help to pay the compensation.

Jail charges

Winson Green prison, Birmingham, was put on alert after a fake gun made from soap was found, it was disclosed yesterday as prison officers called security "a joke". Two men accused of conspiring to cause violent disorder were remanded to November 1.

Discount ban

An injunction taken out by publishers stopping Pentos Books from selling four books at discount through its Dillon's shops will remain after Pentos decided not to contest the order in the High Court. The books are among 22 offered at discount.



Rat down a drainpipe: Wyo Calvin, King Rat of the Grand Order of Water Rats, emerges from a tour of London sewers organised by Thames Water. Members of the showbusiness charity were invited underground after the water authority

hit upon the idea to demonstrate that the capital's sewers are rodent-free and in good repair. Thus the actress Ruth Madoc, the guitarist Bert Weedon and a variety of stars disappeared down a manhole by the London Palladium and Mr Calvin

emerged later to announce: "We are the only rats in the sewers." Thames Water is preparing to invest £810 million on sewers in London over the next ten years, with another £450 million being spent on the ring main.

Driver in fatal crash sent back to prison

A DRINK-DRIVER who served 28 days in prison for causing a friend's death was returned to jail for a longer sentence yesterday. The Court of Appeal said Edward Peter Dillon had been treated too leniently and increased his sentence to 12 months.

Dillon was nearly twice over the alcohol limit when he crashed his car, killing his passenger, James Sweeney. Dillon then drove away and abandoned the vehicle with Mr Sweeney's body beside it. He told police: "I was scared and frightened. I just wanted to get away."

Yesterday, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said that Dillon, aged 28, of Oldham, Greater Manchester, had been justly sentenced to a close friend, but aggravating features of the case were obvious and Judge Webster's sentence at Manchester crown court was outside the proper range.

Dillon had been sentenced in January after admitting causing death by reckless driving, drink driving and failing to stop after an accident. A longer sentence was sought by the Attorney-general.

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Dublin swoons on Beckett binge

By JAMIE DEITMER

Finished, it finished, nearly finished, it must be nearly finished.

DID any deputy or senator from Fianna Fáil, the main government party, recall last week the opening lines of Beckett's play *Endgame* as they struggled through their marathon midweek debate on the future of Charles Haughey the Irish prime minister? Did the politicians cry inwardly, "I can't be punished any more?"

Maybe as they realised that yet again the "boss", as Mr Haughey is nicknamed, had escaped his fate, they talk about the beginning of Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, and did they sympathise with Vladimir when he replies to Estragon's "Nothing to be done" with "I'm beginning to come round to that opinion?"

Dublin, a city obsessed



Beckett: the posthumous toast of old Dublin town

with politics and literature, is consumed with two passions at the moment: the leadership challenge on Mr Haughey and the ambitious Beckett festival.

Last week, the literary and political passions came together when the Beckett festival was opened by Mr Haughey. The festival is the brainchild of Michael Colgan, director of Dublin's Gate Theatre and Beckett devotee. Over the next three weeks, all 19 of Beckett's plays will be performed in Dublin and broadcast on radio and television.

Beckett approved of the planned festival before he died. Mr Colgan said the idea came when discussing with Beckett the set for a Gate production of *Waiting for Godot*. The play's directions are precise: "A country road. A tree. Evening." Mr Colgan wanted a sloped stage. "Beckett fixed me with those steely eyes of his and said: 'Keep it simple, Michael.'" From that discussion Mr Colgan thought of the possibility of staging all Beckett's plays using the same core set or, as he says, "one great show in 19 scenes".

A new impetus for the festival came in 1989 with the death of Beckett, whose obituaries spoke of his death as a loss to France, where he spent most of his adult life. Mr Colgan felt he should reclaim Beckett's Ireland.



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Internal market anomalies may cause hospital work cuts



Sign of the times: political posters outside Guy's

HOSPITALS in London are in greater financial difficulties than those in other parts of the country, with several saying that they will have to cut workloads later this year or extend Christmas closures. Nine of the 12 undergraduate teaching hospitals in London are already overspent half way through the financial year, partly due to increased workloads and also due to a shortage of fee-earning referrals on top of those negotiated in block contracts last April. GPs in the shires are beginning to refer closer to home, where prices are often less than those of teaching hospitals bearing high labour costs and capital charges. The findings, in a survey by *The Times* of 57 trusts and 33 directly

managed hospitals, coincide with a decision, expected to be announced next week, by William Waldegrave, the health secretary, to set up an independent enquiry into effects of the internal market on London. He is concerned that if the market is allowed to "let rip", unplanned, haphazard ward closures will follow. Two of the seven London trusts are overspent, with Guy's trust heading for a £2 million deficit next year if it fails to take corrective steps. It has treated 10 per cent more patients under block contracts, for which it gets no extra pay, but drew 30 per cent fewer than expected extra-contractual referrals, for which it can charge. Directly managed hospitals,

Jill Sherman, continuing her survey of hospitals that are fending for themselves, finds the going harder in London

such as St Mary's, Paddington, Northwick Park, Harrow, and Charing Cross, in west London, are also heavily overspent. St Mary's is £450,000 overspent on a £70 million budget and this is likely to rise to £1 million before the end of the year unless it cuts its workload or makes further savings. A hospital spokesman said that ward closures might be needed to stop some elective work. The Christmas closure is expected to be extended and use of agency nurses reduced. The hospital is

changing its nursing skill mix, with fewer qualified staff. Northwick Park hospital has treated 20 per cent more cases than planned in the first half of the year and may have to close a ward to stop further "over-activity". John James, general manager of Parkside health authority, said: "Consultants have been working faster than planned and more day surgery has been done." The hospital hopes to attract more fee-earning extra-contractual referrals (ECRs). "We might have to cut

back on one ward surplus to the amount of space we need to meet the contracts already agreed," Mr James said. Charing Cross and Westminster hospitals are already £1.6 million overspent. They have had no increase in activity, but ECRs are 25 per cent less than expected and business expected from fund-holders is down by 37 per cent. St Bartholomew's, on the other hand, has attracted 17 per cent more ECRs than expected, mainly due to emergency and commuter work. However, it has treated 10 per cent more patients and is £50,000 overspent. It has already cut 300 posts and may have to close wards at Christmas. University College Hospital and

the Middlesex Hospital, now £750,000 overspent, may have to reduce activity this year to reduce a deficit, which is partly due to a 21 per cent shortfall in ECRs. Some hospitals, such as the Royal London Hospital Trust, St George's, Tooting, and the Royal Free, Hampstead, have stayed within budget. The Royal London puts this down to good belt-tightening, and St George's has won 30 per cent more ECRs than expected. St Thomas' hospital, which has had severe money problems in past years, is also doing better than most. Although £60,000 overspent and unable to reopen five wards shut last year, it expects to break even by the year's end without cutting its workload.

Discounts on new cars help to slow sales slump

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE decline in sales of new cars has slowed, according to figures published yesterday. However, the industry is not certain to what extent the market has been distorted by the plethora of discounts on garage forecourts in August and September.

Sales in September were 129,906, a fall of 17.4 per cent on the same month last year, said the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

The new figures continue the recovery since the middle of the year, when sales fell to their lowest for more than a decade, dropping by 31.18 per cent in June.

Car makers have spent millions of pounds on advertising, discounts to customers and incentives to dealers. Ford, Britain's biggest car company, is estimated to have spent £35 million in August as it led the way with price cuts of up to £2,000. The company says it will spend a further £11 million on advertising in the fourth quarter of the year.

Ford's September market share leapt to 29.36 per cent, the highest of the year, and its Escort, Fiesta and Sierra models claimed the top three best-selling slots.

Udo Kaul, Ford's director of marketing, announced this week that discounts due to run out this week would continue with up to £800 off 50,000 Orion and Escort models until December. He said: "We do not know exactly what effect the new price structure has had on the market. The recession seems to have bottomed out in July and we think we are on a gentle swing upwards now."

Vauxhall, which has the second biggest market share, has so far not decided to carry on matching Ford's discounts. Rover, however, is cutting between £300 and £600 from the price of some Metro and Rover 200/400 models.

Sales may have been "pulled forward" by the price cuts, which would mean a struggle to maintain momentum in the fourth quarter. The SMMT agrees that there may be a sharp drop in sales next month if the discounts are ended. A spokesman said: "By then I fear we will have returned to a state of depressing reality."

Ford estimates that sales for the year will be about 1.55 million, a substantial drop on the 2 million of 1990 and the record 2.3 million of 1989. The top ten best-selling cars in September were: 1. Ford Escort (11,008); 2. Ford Fiesta (10,886); 3. Ford Sierra (9,308); 4. Vauxhall Cavalier (8,968); 5. Rover 200 Series (4,692); 6. Ford Orion (4,574); 7. Peugeot 405 (3,599); 8. Rover Metro (3,539); 9. Peugeot 205 (3,143); 10. Vauxhall Nova (2,997).

Resist gun law, firms are told

ULSTER businessmen should resist demands for protection money from Loyalist and republican paramilitaries, Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, said yesterday. Their cash was helping to finance the campaign of terror in the country.

He told a European Community conference in Belfast: "I hope those who are paying up without telling the RUC search their consciences about the help they are affording terrorists to kill and maim others. There are many brave men and women protecting the community from terrorism who are betrayed by the process, which simply extends the lifespan of this scourge."

Ulster security chiefs believe several million pounds a year is paid by businessmen living in fear of being shot or having their companies bombed.

● Pearce McKenna, a trade unionist, was shot and seriously injured by Loyalist gunmen in Belfast yesterday.



Brooke: paying terrorists betrays brave men



Freedom of the forest: Eddie Pierce, farm manager, watches over some of the thousands of free-range turkeys that his company is rearing in larch woods on the Hambleton Hills, North Yorkshire (Michael Horsby writes). Farmers' Glory, a turkey-processing company of Newby Wiske, reared birds on grassland before rearing the woods from the

Forestry Commission. Les Brown, the managing director, said yesterday: "The advantage of the forest is that it is well drained and provides the birds with more interest and exercise. Turkeys become bored easily and that can lead to fighting and pecking." The birds forage and are fed rations that Mr Brown says contain no anti-biotics, weight-

enhancing drugs or animal by-products. They are raised indoors until the age of six to eight weeks and live in the forest until they are slaughtered at 14 to 18 weeks. Each bird has more than twice the European Community minimum space for free-range poultry. At night and in bad weather they shelter in straw-bale houses. The

first 1,000 birds were introduced to the forest in July. They sold in butcher's shops for £1.10 a lb, more than twice the price of the most widely sold, oven-ready turkeys. Mr Brown is confident, however, that consumers will pay more for a better flavour and texture, and hopes to have 8,000 birds ready for the Christmas market.

Bishop challenges ethical base of church investment

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE battle between God and mammon enters the High Court on Monday with a case that could have ramifications for charities throughout Britain and which will challenge the principles underlying church investment.

The Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, is suing the church commissioners over their investment policy. He says that they should take into account Church of England ethics when they make investments.

The commissioners, who invest and manage more than £2.4 billion of church assets and who are responsible for paying more than 5,500 clergy salaries and 10,000 pensions,

argue that their financial duties to their dependents are paramount.

The case will hinge on the interpretation of the four statutes under which the commissioners operate: the Queen Anne's Bounty Act of 1703 and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners Acts of 1836, 1840 and 1850.

The commissioners argue that the 1984 Megarry judgment, in the case of Cowan v Arthur Scargill in the Chancery division over the duties of the trustees of a pension fund, sets a precedent in favour of their ethical investment policy: they avoid investment in companies whose main business is to

produce, sell, or distribute alcohol, tobacco, gambling and pornography. The bishop believes that they should go further and set "a strong moral lead in the world of financial management". The crux of the bishop's complaint is that where an "ethical" investment carries a financial penalty, it is avoided by the commissioners.

Andrew Phillips, the bishop's solicitor, said: "The Achilles heel of modern capitalism is its failure to take a holistic view of what it does. That is not to say it has become immoral, more that it has become amoral. The outcome of this case should reverberate throughout the whole of the charity sector."

Aids virus 'infects 5,000 every day'

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

FIVE thousand people a day are becoming infected with the Aids virus, the World Health Organisation said yesterday. The organisation predicts that 30 to 40 million men, women and children will have been infected with HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, by the year 2000.

Figures published by WHO yesterday estimate that about 10 million people worldwide have the infection, of whom about 1.5 million are thought to have developed Aids. In its latest quarterly update, WHO records an increase of 46,600 recorded cases of full-blown Aids in 163 countries, giving a cumulative total of 418,403 known

sufferers in the past ten years. The rise of more than 10 per cent is regarded by the organisation as an underestimate. "While most if not all HIV-infected people are expected ultimately to develop Aids, this takes an average of ten years. The current number of Aids cases thus reflects the HIV infections acquired a decade ago," the report says.

A geographical breakdown of cases shows 191,601 reported in America, 119,983 in Africa, 56,380 in Europe, including 4,758 in the UK, with smaller numbers in central and South America, the Mediterranean region, south-east Asia and the nations of the western Pacific.

Nurse in drink-drive killing is jailed

A nurse who had drunk more than twice the legal limit drove into a boy aged five and killed him in front of his mother at a school crossing.

Janet Bekka, aged 53, was jailed for two years at Dorchester crown court after she admitted causing death by reckless driving.

Without stopping, Bekka had driven off to her home in Hamworthy, Dorset, the court was told. There she phoned the police and admitted the killing. She also told them that she had been moving house that day following a broken relationship. She was "traumatised" by the move and had not seen the boy.

Flock slaughter

About 70,000 chickens have been slaughtered at a poultry farm near Chelmsford, Essex, after an investigation into an outbreak of salmonella poisoning which affected 150 people in July.

No salvation

The Salvation Army has shut its printing works at St Albans, Hertfordshire, where its newspaper, *War Cry*, is published, after deciding renovation was uneconomic. The paper is to be printed by contract.

Factory death

An enquiry was under way after a worker was crushed to death in a vegetable press at the Coventry Garden Soup Company's factory in Willesden, northwest London.

Crewman lost

A crewman, aged 24, was missing feared drowned after he failed to turn up for watch on a tanker, the British Wye, off the Isles of Scilly.

Lake slow down

A speed limit of 10mph on Windermere is likely after the Countryside Commission said it would support the proposal by the Lake District Special Planning Board.

Red alert

A fire engine, answering an emergency call in Dublin, caught fire because of a wiring fault and had to call the fire brigade. The original call turned out to be a false alarm.

Scots massacre site goes on sale

By KERRY GILL

A SMALL Scottish estate whose beauty belies its bloody history has been put on sale and is expected to fetch more than £1.5 million. The new owner will have the privilege of using the courtesy title Baron of Ochertyre.

The 205-acre Ochertyre estate on Tayside, which contains an Adam-style mansion house, stabling, cottages, two lochs, a 10th century ruined castle and grazing land, was the scene of a 16th century massacre. A dispute between clans resulted in 160 men, women and children being burnt to death in the church of Monzievaird in 1511.

The owners of the land, the Murrays, and others had taken sanctuary in the church but the Drummonds set it ablaze after someone inside fired a musket. Evidence of the massacre emerged almost three hundred years later with the discovery of a heap of

calcified bones and charred fabric.

The ruined Cluggy Castle dates from about 1000 and was the seat of Red Cummin, who was killed by his rival Robert the Bruce. Ochertyre passed to the Murrays in 1467 and they retained the lands for more than five centuries until 1976. The eldest son of each generation succeeded his father, an unusual feat for a Scottish family, given the turbulent history of the area.

Ochertyre house was built between 1784 and 1790. In 1787 Robert Burns stayed on the estate, which covered about 12,000 acres until the 1950s, and in tribute to the beauty of Euphemia Murray he wrote *Blyth Was She*.

The estate, to be sold by Bidwells, is two miles from Crieff and 20 miles from Perth. Within the wooded grounds is Loch Monzievaird, used as a fishery, and St Serf's loch. The main house is now a restaurant.

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Envoy
replies
to statue
protest

Support call

Spy chief bailed

Julia Ro

Britain accepts EC goal of a united policy on defence

By GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS AND MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE British government acknowledged for the first time yesterday that the European Community might one day have its own armed forces.

In a joint paper with Italy, submitted to EC foreign ministers meeting this weekend to discuss foreign policy and defence, Britain admits that closer union implies "a stronger European defence identity with the longer-term perspective of a common defence policy". The document suggests, however, that the EC should use the Western European Union and the "European pillar" of Nato as the "defence component of the [EC] union".

The paper repeats the British plan for the WEU to develop a "European reaction force" which could be used outside the Nato area, "for

example in response to threats to the interests of WEU members or in peacekeeping operations". The document, proposed in April by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, reflects concern in both countries that European defence should not be severed from Nato, and that the transatlantic link must remain central to any EC structure.

Drawn up in secrecy and completed only last week, the paper represents concessions by both countries which were once far apart: Britain recognises a much bigger role for the community, even after enlargement, in defence; and Italy admits that such a role must be explicitly linked to Nato. The paper sees the need for Europe's defence decisions

to be open to the non-EC Nato members such as the United States, Canada, Turkey and Norway.

British officials confirmed that the government would no longer oppose outright the possibility that the EC would absorb the WEU and its armed forces. They emphasised, however, that Britain saw this as unlikely. Washington expressed alarm earlier this year at the prospect that it might face a closed EC caucus within Nato. "If we felt that by doing this we would be damaging the alliance, we wouldn't be doing it," one official said yesterday.

With nine weeks to go before the EC summit at Maastricht, the Anglo-Italian paper aims to bridge a gap in what has been one of the most difficult issues in the treaty talks. Since the beginning of the year, a group of states led by France has tried to insert clauses in the treaty which would endow a future EC with a defence policy that would be independent of the existing Atlantic alliance. A rival group led by Britain and The Netherlands has insisted that any integration of European defence should be done within Nato. Yesterday's Anglo-Italian paper leans a little further towards the French insistence on a role for the EC while retaining the Nato framework.

The launch of the Anglo-Italian document yesterday is also an attempt to set the agenda on defence in the last phase of the treaty talks and before the Nato summit in Rome in early November.



De Michelis: concerned to retain Nato link

Significantly, Britain has put down its plans in a formal paper. Until now the government has been reluctant to go into detail about its proposals; the running has therefore often been left to the French and Germans, and to federalists who have launched visionary plans for union. Britain believes that defence and foreign policy cannot be dealt with in the same community framework as other issues, and that the Franco-German proposals on the issue glossed over the practical difficulties of trying to do so.

Letters, page 15

Envoy replies to statue protest

THE British government and people "greatly regret" the suffering which occurred on all sides in the second world war, Sir Christopher Mallaby, Britain's ambassador in Bonn, has told German mayors who have written to protest against plans for a statue to Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris.

In a letter of reply to the mayors, the ambassador explained that the memorial was raised by private subscription and had no connection with the government. Letters of complaint from the mayors and members of the public are to be passed on to the Bomber Command Association, which has collected the money for the £100,000 statue to be erected outside Saint Clement Dames in The Strand.

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Letters, page 15

Support call

Gibraltar - Joe Bossano, the chief minister of Gibraltar, has called on the Commonwealth government leaders to support him in rejecting the British and Spanish view that the Treaty of Utrecht "precludes, prevents and deprives" Gibraltarians from self-determination. He said Gibraltarians should be able to call for independence. He also called for Gibraltar to be at any talks on decolonisation.

Spy chief bailed

Bonn - Markus Wolf, the former East German spy chief, was freed on bail of £85,000 while the courts decide whether he should go on trial for treason. He was arrested when he crossed into Germany from Austria, where he had sought asylum in vain.

Battle to control Georgia steps up

From ROBERT SEELY IN TBILISI

FERCE fighting on the outskirts of the Georgian capital between rebel national guards and forces loyal to President Gamsakhurdia left one man dead and several others wounded yesterday. It was one of the bloodiest clashes in a month-long effort to oust the president.

After the gun battle, several thousand opposition demonstrators spent the afternoon trapped in Tbilisi's main Rustaveli Prospect, hemmed in by two groups supporting Mr Gamsakhurdia. Rival speakers heckled one another through megaphones as their opponents jeered and waved their fists.

Crowds began to gather earlier in the day to demand revenge for the attack on Tengiz Kitovani's national guardsmen who started their withdrawal from the capital on Thursday night. The clashes took place on the northern side of the Tbilisi Sea, an artificial lake ten miles from the city centre. Several Georgian police officers were also taken captive.

The mood among the protesters was ugly. Standing barely ten feet apart in some places, the confrontation between the two camps threatened to ignite street violence throughout the city. "Gamsakhurdia is going to die tonight," shouted one demonstrator.

The president yesterday appealed to his supporters to defend him, drawing Georgians from all over the city and others who have flocked in from the provinces to the republic's parliament building.



March to the sea: Yugoslav federal soldiers celebrating their victory yesterday after capturing Dubrovnik's Cilipi airport, just 11 miles from the coastal Croatian city. Army attacks continued in the area all day

Air raids drown talk of peace

Christopher Walker reports that in Croatia the war is going on as usual despite a new agreement in The Hague on a Yugoslav solution

NEWS of the political agreement in The Hague was less than an hour old when the first federal air force jets to attack Zagreb for more than two weeks fired rockets which damaged the main transmitter of Croatian television only five miles from the city centre.

The ominous wailing of air raid sirens, which have been silent for 11 days, sent hundreds of thousands of people rushing for cover during the afternoon rush hour and reinforced popular scepticism that the new agreement will succeed. Six ceasefires have collapsed. Later an eerie blackout was reimposed for the first time since the last ceasefire on September 22.

Elsewhere in the embattled breakaway republic fierce fighting overshadowed the peace talks in The Hague and thousands of new refugees were on the roads after their villages were hit by artillery

shells, mortars and in one case, cluster bombs. The warlike atmosphere was heightened by a report issued by Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency, that the Serb-run presidency had ordered a partial mobilization. In Zagreb Stipe Mesic, the Croat chairman of the Yugoslav presidency, announced that Croatia would hit back "with all means at our disposal" if the Hague agreement did not bring an end to attacks "by the end of this day".

Mr Mesic claimed that the Serbian army, by virtue of the takeover of the presidency in Belgrade, had "declared a putsch". He accused General Veljko Kadijevic, the federal defence minister and one of the main participants in the Hague agreement, of issuing a declaration of war against Croatia on Thursday night.

Even before the air raid warning, Zagreb had again been placed on a war footing with reinforcements placed around public buildings and a mobilisation of male volunteers. The rockets put Croatian television off the air for only an hour. It came on again, although with a much weakened picture, relaying its grim fare of damage, death and destruction throughout the republic. Television has become an important weapon

Ethnic squabble sinks Martens

From DENISE CLAVELUX IN BRUSSELS

EUROPE's longest-serving prime minister, Wilfried Martens of Belgium, was last night forced to tender his resignation when he could no longer hold together his centre-left coalition government. For 12 years Mr Martens, aged 56, has steered nine successive governments through the linguistic and regional battles dividing the Flemish and Walloon communities.

The clash which succeeded in bringing down the government started when Flemish political parties opposed granting export licenses for sales of arms to the Middle East for two manufacturers, both of which were in French-speaking Wallonia. In retaliation, Walloon political parties opposed granting telecommunications contracts

which would benefit companies in the Flemish region. Despite their opposition, Marcel Colla, the telecommunications minister, signed the contracts without the cabinet's backing. French-speaking ministers then said they would block the deal unless there was agreement that the revenues from television licences was transferred to the regions so it could be used for schools in Wallonia.

Disagreement over the use of television licence revenue was the straw that broke the government's back. The Flemish federalist Volksunie party had already quit the government last weekend over the arms export row. Mr Martens was forced to suspend this week's cabinet meeting, described by observers as "chaotic", when he failed to make peace between the warring Flemish and Walloons.

It is up to King Baudouin to accept Mr Martens' resignation. As a general election is scheduled for January 19, it is likely that the king will ask Mr Martens to stay on to head a caretaker government. Political analysts say the election could be brought forward to as early as mid-November.

Mr Martens, a Flemish Christian Socialist, has succeeded in bringing a degree of political stability previously unknown in Belgium. He has pushed through controversial schemes to devolve considerable powers from the central government to regional executives. These have considerably cooled linguistic and regional squabbles.

Walesa seeks UN force in Europe

From ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

PRESIDENT Walesa gave a warning yesterday that ethnic conflicts in Yugoslavia and the rest of the Balkans could disrupt attempts to integrate East and West Europe.

The Polish leader, who holds talks in Cracow this weekend with President Havel of Czechoslovakia and the Hungarian prime minister, Jozsef Antall, believes the three countries should agree a policy on Nato in order to anchor the security of Central Europe. "Nato in turn should work out a new strategy in relation to our countries and thus consolidate its all-European role," he said.

Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia all wanted "an international armed force in Europe under the auspices of the United Nations," he went on. "The very existence of such a force would... have a calming effect, prevent tragic explosions."

This time last year they were competing for Western investment and jostling for attention from the European Community. In so far as they had a foreign policy towards each other, it was based on bilateral accords. Now - as all three realise - they are stuck in the EC waiting room for some time, and as the small of Yugoslavia cordite drifts northwards - the emphasis has shifted to collective security. The fear is that the seeds of the Yugoslav conflict are also buried in their countries where ethnic minorities are squeezed tightly together.

"Tension is growing throughout the region," said Adam Michnik, the Polish commentator and editor, yesterday. "There are Hungarians in Slovakia and Romania, Turks in Bulgaria, Poles in Lithuania. The communist utopia is being replaced by the utopia of an ethnically pure state."

"Hungary in particular has problems. Its nationalist government, committed to defending minorities outside its borders, is confronted with a Yugoslav army that is pressing Magyarians into a dirty war, the possibility of a marriage between Romania and Moldavia that would spell problems for Hungarian communities in Transylvania, and the rise of national politics in Slovakia and the Ukraine that could well turn nasty on the Hungarians there."

Police rape case stirs French fears

Philip Jacobson reports from Paris that the rape of a woman by a policeman with Aids has once again focused France's attention on the conduct of its police force

The tragic case of a young French woman who was raped by a police officer a few days after he learnt that he had Aids is again focusing the nation's attention on the conduct of its police force. The incident comes at a time when six other officers are in court on allegations of organising numerous armed robberies and another has just been charged with shooting dead a young man in questionable circumstances.

The rape of Alexandra F. took place in the central police station in Sevran, near Paris, at the end of August, but she discovered only recently that the policeman responsible, Philippe Gagnon, had tested HIV-positive just before attacking her. Worse, she was not told by the police authorities, nor by the doctors who treated her, nor by the court that had remanded M Gagnon in custody; instead she read about it in the French press.

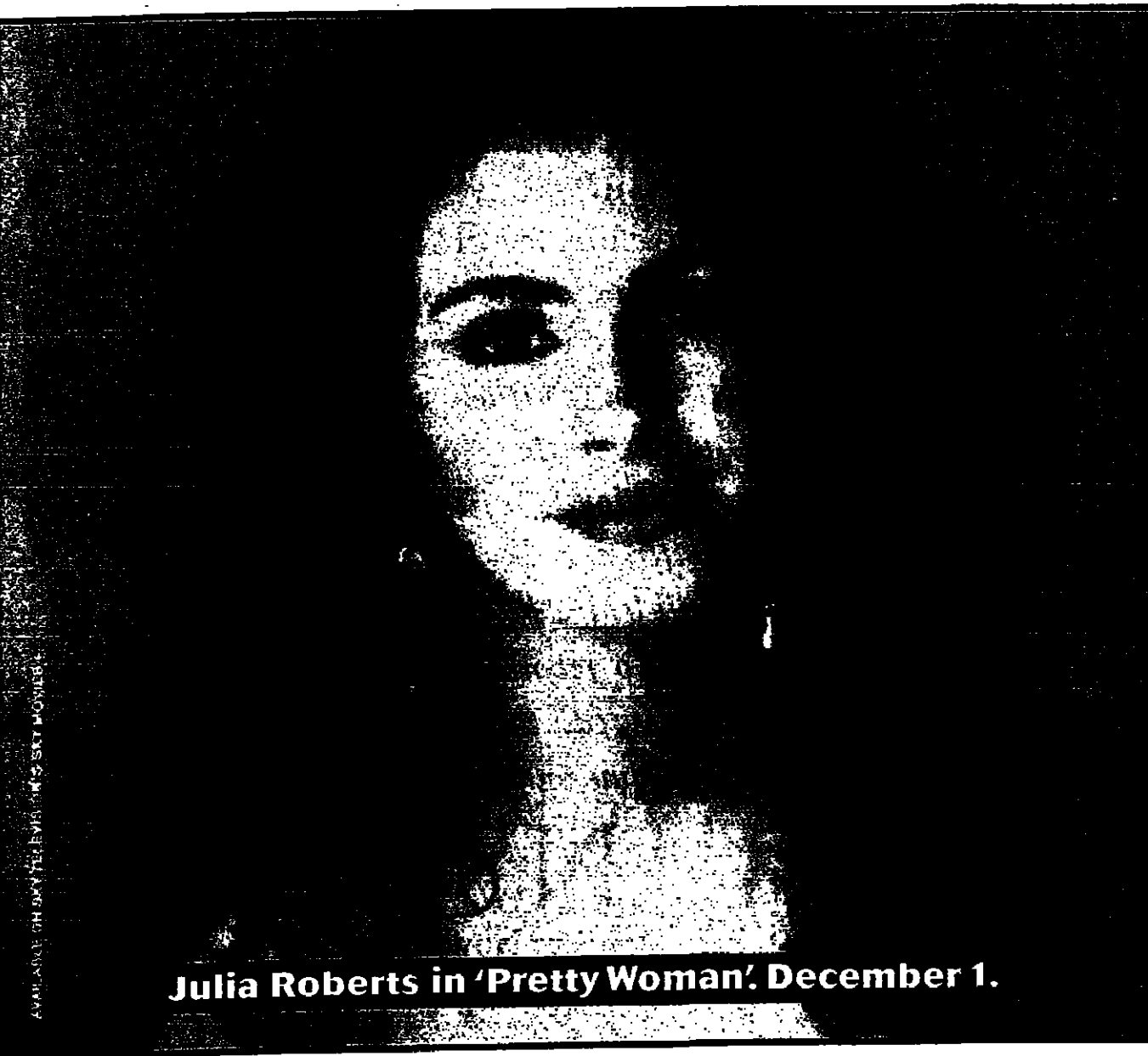
An Aids test on Alexandra proved negative, but specialists say she will have to wait for up to six months before learning anything definite. "You can imagine what torment this poor woman is going through," says her lawyer. "Day after day between life and death, asking herself what fate will bring."

Alexandra, aged 26, agreed to talk to the newspaper, *France-Soir*, in the offices of Habebus Corpus, an organisation that investigates complaints of abuse of power by the police. "When I realised what had happened to me, that instead of the worst being over, the horror was just beginning, I could barely stand it."

By any standards, Alexandra's life up to then had been hard enough: her father was serving a long jail sentence, and she had drifted into drug abuse in the grim suburb where she lived, then cured herself of addiction and married only to separate and lose custody of her son. She had been detained overnight by the Sevran police on suspicion of involvement in a theft: just before dawn, having locked up the station, M Gagnon dragged her from a holding cell into the showers where he raped her in front of a junior officer.

Two weeks after her ordeal, knowing nothing of what was to come, Alexandra slashed her wrist but she was taken to hospital in time. Since then, sustained and encouraged by Habebus Corpus, she has rallied, preparing herself for the ordeal of M Gagnon's trial. "I want to have retrieved my dignity by then, to have a job and somewhere to live with my son. I just pray that I will be strong enough, that I won't have Aids." As for M Gagnon, "I don't wish anything particular for him, since he's going to die anyway."

Meanwhile, the Paris assize court is considering the damaging affair of the six officers - three belonging to the crack Anti-Banditry Squad - accused, in a 110-page dossier, of taking part in eight hold-ups in 18 months. They were first arrested more than five years ago. But innumerable obstacles have been put in the way of their final trial, apparently caused by official reluctance to have the matter aired in public.



Julia Roberts in 'Pretty Woman' December 1.

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But a good hiding is the last thing children like Simon need.

Every day they already suffer a worse punishment. It's called emotional abuse. Their parents make them feel completely worthless by relentlessly attacking them with insults and put-downs.

To a growing boy or girl the damage can be irreparable.

Imagine what it must feel like. You're 11 years old, and you can't remember ever having any love or affection.

At school you simply don't know how to mix. So you take out your anger and frustration by bullying other children.

You're always in trouble. It's the only way you know of getting some attention.

For once though, you've done some good work. You take it home to show your parents but they laugh at you and call you "thicko" and "ugly." Then they tell you to "---- off" out of their sight.

You go down to the park and sit under that same tree you always do. You've pinched a half-full bottle of scotch from your dad. It helps to numb the pain.

Children like Simon don't want



pity. They want help. Maybe you know a child who you suspect is being emotionally abused. Please don't leave the child at risk by just hoping for the best.

And don't be put off because you're worried about splitting up

the family. This only happens in very extreme cases.

When a case is reported to us, an NSPCC Child Protection Officer or Local Authority social worker may visit the child's home.

After this, we then make a careful assessment of the family to identify why the parents have been mistreating their child. In numerous cases, they don't even realise they've been doing wrong. A period of counselling may then follow which can involve helping the parents learn how to love and understand their children.

Of course, reporting a case isn't the only way you can help.

We're always crying out for more donations. 80% of our funding relies on the public's generosity.

But, above all, please keep a look out for children like Simon.

They may not look abused. But looks can be cruelly deceiving.

For further information on the work of the NSPCC, or to make a donation, write to: NSPCC, 67 Saffron Hill, London, EC1N 8RS or call 071-242 1626.

To report a suspected case of child abuse, call the NSPCC Child Protection Helpline on 0800 800 500.

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Manila's
hope fade



Diet caught off guard as Kaifu opts to bow out

From JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

JAPAN's political establishment was caught off guard yesterday when Toshiki Kaifu, the prime minister, said he would not be standing for re-election when his term expires at the end of this month.

All the indications had pointed to a second term for Mr Kaifu, who has pushed public approval of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to an all-time high of 55 per cent. The party is scheduled to hold its election for party president on October 27. The winner will become prime minister automatically because the

party controls the lower house of the Diet.

Yesterday's decision was not Mr Kaifu's own. It was made for him by the leaders of the Takeshita faction, to which he owes his party support and which has controlled him, according to the influential *Asahi* newspaper, "like a puppet".

Withdrawal of the Takeshita faction's backing came after a turbulent week in which three political reform bills failed. Mr Kaifu had staked his career on the legislation, first proposed two years ago in the wake of the Recruit bribery scandal.

The ill-fated Mr Kaifu has never had much choice but to do the bidding of his masters in the Takeshita faction. An obscure backbencher from the party's smallest faction, Mr Kaifu became prime minister in August 1989. He was always marked as a fill-in to keep the seat warm until a more serious candidate came along. Few thought he would last a few months, let alone two years. That he has been allowed to stay on so long has less to do with his own abilities than with the absence of other suitable candidates.

During the Gulf war, it was carefully put about that the prime minister blundered by criticising the allies' view that Japan's contribution was too little, too late. He suffered the additional indignity of witnessing the collapse of his own proposed legislation, designed to send troops to the Gulf under the auspices of the United Nations. His subsequent attempts to revive the "peacekeeping operations" bill have got nowhere. He has also been sharply criticised on domestic policy this week over his failed political reform project.

Mr Kaifu has little to show for his unhappy term apart from his high popularity ratings. An amiable man, and one who has been harried relentlessly by the more venal elements in his party, he has won the sympathy of more people than any other postwar prime minister. Given the loud pledges by those disgraced in the Recruit scandal to win the support of the electorate and clean up the party, it is ironic that they are dumping him now.

Leading article, page 15

Scud threat detected by Seoul

Seoul - North Korea has successfully tested a mobile launcher for its Scud C missiles, which could hit all of South Korea and parts of western Japan, according to an intelligence report presented to the South Korean parliament yesterday.

The launcher was developed because the allies had attacked Iraq's fixed launchers during the Gulf war, the report said. A Scud C missile with a range of 310 miles had been fired and North Korea was now developing missiles capable of double that distance. The report also said North Korea had deployed light aircraft, midjet submarines and hovercraft for commando raids on the South. (Reuters)

Money chase

Manila - The Philippines government has filed a civil complaint to recover \$356 million (£203 million) belonging to the late President Marcos's family, seeking to win forfeiture of his assets in Swiss bank accounts. His widow, Imelda, will now delay her return to Manila to face tax evasion charges.

Housewives' flu

Sydney - Housewives are more likely to suffer Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, known as "yuppie flu", than any other group, according to Dr Mark Donohue, director of Sydney's Environmental Medicine Centre. (Reuters)

Manila's flame of hope fades to ashes

From JAMES PRINGLE IN MANILA

THE grey rain, mixed with dust and grit, falls continuously, and there is an atmosphere that belies Manila's location in the tropics. Families camped under corrugated-iron sheeting huddled together for comfort.

Children's hands reach through taxi windows for alms. A woman stoops to eat food from a rubbish bin outside a restaurant. Jobless squatters, looking like zombies, lie asleep in Rizal Park. The usual demonstrators cluster outside the American embassy, shouting slogans.



Aquino: sees danger in talks with army rebels
gans. Manila has a worn-out look and feel. Decay is everywhere.

On these wet days towards the end of the rainy season, the capital resembles nothing so much as the set of a horror film about the world after a nuclear holocaust. At an airline office, the wheezing air conditioning starts vibrating in the wall, a door swings open by itself. The employees flee into the street and across the road. The building seems to be swaying. It is an earth tremor.

The newspapers are full of foreboding. More mud has been sliding down the slopes of the volcano, Mount Pinatubo. There are out-

break of dengue fever. The American bases are to go, their further lease rejected by the Philippines senate. Imelda Marcos, the widow of the late president, Ferdinand Marcos, is to return from exile with or without her husband's corpse. Army rebels were talking secretly with army chiefs on a deal for surrender, and President Aquino is clearly not pleased. More members of the communist New People's Army have turned themselves in. It must be depressing for them to listen to Radio Moscow these days. How can you fight for socialism when in the heartland of revolution the revolution has turned to ashes? And how can the rank and file back a movement that praised the Chinese government's action at Tiananmen Square and backed the Soviet coup attempt. The people's army has only failed because it, too, is inept, and out of step with popular thinking.

For if ever there was a country that needed the threat of communism to get its feudal chieftains to look beyond selfish interests, it is the Philippines, now sunk to one of Asia's poorest. Land reform is urgent, but leading families in this nation of 62 million, including that of President Aquino, give as little as possible. Asian communism may have failed in China and Vietnam, but "democracy" and "capitalism" - seen from here - seem little better as an alternative.

It is five years since the "people power" revolution, when some in this deeply Catholic country said they had seen the Virgin Mary walking, among demonstrators against the Marcos regime. But the dreams conjured up then have turned to ashes.



Day of reckoning: Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese prime minister, in sombre mood in the parliament yesterday after announcing that he will not seek a second term

Bhopal gas victims choke on compensation deal

ALONG with half a million Bhopal gas victims, Lal Vishwakarma receives 200 rupees (less than £5) a month in compensation. He can barely catch his breath to speak: the words he does manage to utter are filled with bitterness.

He said it took his daughter two-and-a-half years to die after inhaling gas from the Union Carbide's pesticide plant, just across the street from his shanty. Her death, because it did not come immediately after the gas leak nearly seven years ago, has brought only 1,500 rupees in compensation. If she had died straight away, he would have received 10,000 rupees. Explaining this bizarre bureaucratic logic leaves Mr Vishwakarma choking for air.

He is a carpenter by trade, but he has spent the past seven years lying on a charpoy, summoning the strength once a month to go to the bank for his hand-out. He said he had heard on the radio that the Indian Supreme Court had on Thursday upheld final compensation by Union Carbide of \$470 million (£268 million). "Not enough," he said. "No amount is enough."

The Indian government has been paying interim compensation to people like Mr Vishwakarma since April

Christopher Thomas reports from Bhopal that corruption and red tape will drag out payments to the gas disaster victims

enough to cover the interim payments it has been making for the past 18 months. Claimants have calculated that there will be enough left to give each victim about 20,000 rupees (£460) - the equivalent of about two years' wages for a typical slum dweller.

There are fears that officials will siphon off a good deal of the money. It is common knowledge that in Bhopal a passbook entitling a person to compensation can be bought easily from bureaucrats and even genuine victims have to pay bribes to get passbooks. Staff at the three government hospitals and six dispensaries set aside to treat the gas victims free of charge have stolen and sold medicines, forcing patients to buy them on the open market.

Meagre as the interim compensation has been, it has caused significant distortions in purchasing power among Bhopal's poor. Families collecting 1,000 rupees a month as well as the wages brought in by those fit enough to work are the elite of the slums. Their comparative prosperity has driven up the prices of basic commodities. Many have taken hefty loans from money lenders in the expectation of a windfall, even though it may take years to arrive.

Union Carbide deposited the \$470 million settlement in March 1989 and it has been earning interest in nationalised banks since then. The government plans to take out

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Seized papers show Iraq tried to build nuclear missiles

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

DOCUMENTS seized by United Nations inspectors in Baghdad reveal that Iraq was trying to build nuclear-armed surface-to-surface missiles, and that the secret programme was headed by a British-educated scientist, *The Times* has been informed.

A confidential preliminary report of the UN team twice detained in Baghdad last month says the mission uncovered conclusive evidence that Iraq had a secret programme code-named "Petrochemical Three" (PC-3) to build an implosion-type nuclear bomb. The inspectors also found evidence that Baghdad was developing a missile delivery system for the weapon.

The report names Dr Jaffar Dhia Jaffar, who was educated at Birmingham and London universities, as the leader of the overall nuclear weapons programme. The UN team says that Iraq "still has substantial facilities which were part of the clandestine programme and which have not been declared". But UN inspectors do not know how close Iraq is to developing a nuclear bomb.

"One document points to Iraqi success in the machining of nuclear weapons components from natural uranium, but it is not clear from the document whether they had enough highly enriched uranium for an actual explosive device," the report says. The

A British-educated scientist was heading the weapons research programme, writes James Bone from New York

inspection team, which was held in a Baghdad car park for five days, reports that nuclear weapons design work was conducted at Al Atheer — a facility that Iraq denied had any connection to its nuclear programme. "A top secret report states that the Al Atheer facility was to design and produce a nuclear device," the team says. The inspection team also found evidence that Iraq possessed sophisticated computer codes used in the development of nuclear weapons. These codes included "one- and two-dimensional hydrodynamic and neutronic models which simulate the behaviour of nuclear weapons as they are being fired."

The documents on Al Atheer suggest Iraq was developing a missile delivery system in parallel with its nuclear weapons work. In one top secret document, the Iraqi ministry of defence ordered an experiment postponed until after a surface-to-surface missile test.

The documents reveal that "Iraq conducted substantial nuclear-weapons related procurement from foreign

sources" although many items purchased had dual uses, did not require export licences and were supplied before the UN trade embargo imposed after the invasion of Kuwait.

"At the PC-3 headquarters, the team found many volumes of documents related to procurement for the Iraqi nuclear weapons programme," the UN report says. "A number of cover names used by Iraq in its procurement activities have been identified, and it is expected that this number will grow as further procurement records are translated." UN inspectors have concluded that the secret Iraqi nuclear weapons programme was under the general control of the ministry of industry and military industrialisation, "with specific control assigned to PC-3".

Some part of the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission was also involved, as did the ministry of defence. The report says the documents show that Dr Jaffar was a senior administrator for the Iraqi nuclear weapons programme, and was intimately linked to uranium enrichment efforts as well.

"The team accordingly believes that Dr Jaffar had the lead technical and administrative responsibility for the nuclear weapons programme as a whole — despite his repeated claims that no such programme existed," the report says.



Keeping watch: Haitian soldiers and police patrolling the mostly deserted streets of Port-au-Prince yesterday. Many of the city's businesses have stayed closed since the military coup against President Aristide.

Bitterness flares in Haiti tinderbox

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN PORT-AU-PRINCE

DRIVE north from Port-au-Prince along a pitted expanse of rubble called the Boulevard Harry Truman and you come to Carrefour, the slum where perhaps half the Haitian capital's population lives, where an annual family income rarely exceeds \$350 (£200).

Shanty homes line open sewers. The streets are littered with wrecks of cars and mounds of rubbish scavenged by goats

and skeletal dogs while pigs root in drains. Emaciated, bare-chested men labour to haul carts laden with bags of rice or charcoal.

This is where Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the president deposed by the Haitian army last Monday, was born and raised. This is the heartland of his support, where the fighting cock symbol of his grassroots "Lavalas" move-

ment appears in a thousand colourful permutations on every wall. It is where in the early hours of the coup that the people trapped a soldier, put a tyre around his neck and set it alight.

The practice has for decades been the traditional form of mob justice in a country run by dictators. In this case, the burning provoked swift retribution. More than 40 Haitians have subsequently been shot dead in Carrefour by marauding bands of soldiers seeking vengeance.

This is the country's tinderbox and everyone knows it. Yesterday patrols of soldiers in commandeered vehicles bristling with automatic weapons were still careering at high speed around the narrow streets, watching for the first signs of disturbance in a population seething with resentment. Five days after the coup, nothing gives in Port-au-Prince.

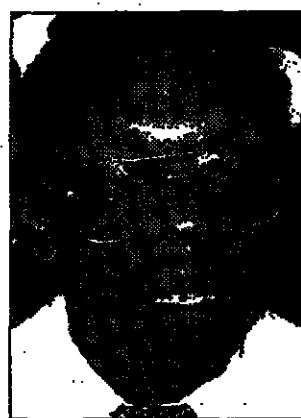
The masses, their political consciences awakened by Haiti's first truly democratic election in its 187-year history last December, are united as rarely before. Public meetings and demonstrations are banned, and Father Aristide's most prominent political supporters are in hiding, but the city is now paralysed by an almost total general strike. Everything is closed, from the ports to the smallest shops. Rubbish is piling up in the streets. Hotels are short of food.

A high-level delegation from the Organisation of American States (OAS) arrived from Washington yesterday afternoon to insist on Father Aristide's restoration. "The return of the duly elected and constitutional president is not negotiable," declared Elsa Bocchecchi, the Venezuelan ambassador before the meeting began.

The army was equally insistent that he could never return. It was planning to present the OAS delegation

with a dossier of alleged constitutional outrages perpetrated by Father Aristide during his brief presidency. These ranged from condoning assassinations of opponents to the intimidation of parliament and the training of a private militia — a sensitive issue in a nation where the infamous Tonton Macoute of the Duvalier dictators remain a vivid memory.

Western diplomats acknowledge there may be some truth to these charges: in an inflammatory speech in a poor area of Port-au-Prince last weekend Father Aristide said the will of the people transcended the constitution. However, the diplomats insist these violations were far outweighed by the gains of the past nine months — economic restructuring, an end to decades of terror, a new dialogue



Aristide: brought end to decades of terror.

with the army and greater individual security. The eventual outcome of this week's coup is still impossible to divine, but it is only a matter of time before economic sanctions imposed on the poorest country in the Western hemisphere begin to bite hard. "A population of six million people cut off from the rest of the world cannot survive," one senior Western diplomat said yesterday.

Cruising into a black comedy

By MARTIN FLETCHER

TWENTY-FIVE years after Graham Greene's novel *The Comedians* comes *Comedians II*. The setting is again Haiti, but this time the story is not of the dictators Papa and Baby Doc Duvalier but of real comedians: Mike Hope and Albie Keen of the 1970s BBC comedy series *Hope and Keen*.

Last Saturday, about to fly home from Florida after entertaining passengers on a Caribbean cruise, they were asked to join another ship in Haiti. They duly flew to Port-au-Prince, landed at 7.15 on Sunday evening and took a taxi to the hotel Villa Creole.

Within minutes, the city exploded in gunfire. Mistaking the noise for a fire and exhausted by their journey, Messrs Hope and Keen fell asleep. They realised they were in mid-coup only on waking at 5am to automatic gunfire outside and palls of smoke above the city. "It was ear-splitting, terrifying," said Mr Hope. "We ended up hiding in the bathroom."

The two comedians have not left the hotel since. They spent the week playing cards, swimming and entertaining not a liner full of wealthy Americans but four Pentecostal missionaries from Florida, three Mexican oilmen, two American relief workers and the Texan managers of Haitian land and women's lingerie factories.

Telephone lines to the outside world were almost unobtainable. The dinner menu shrank from *à la carte* to *table d'hôte*, with inadequate supplies of soup and dessert. On Thursday the Mexicans sneaked out on a Mexican government rescue plane.

"We have kept a stiff upper lip, British to the core," said Mr Hope. "It has been less Graham Greene than Noel Coward or Evelyn Waugh."

Haitian assets frozen

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush signed an executive order yesterday freezing all property, including bank assets, of the Haitian government in the United States. The order also forbids American citizens from making any payments to the regime now in power.

The White House announced the action after Mr Bush met the ousted Haitian president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Mr Bush tried to dispel comparisons with the coup and the invasion by Iraq of Kuwait that prompted an American-led use of force. "The situation is not parallel at all," his remarks came as a delegation of ministers from the Organisation of American States left to order the military junta to let Father Aristide return to office.

Author of best-selling Cherokee saga 'was Ku Klux Klan man'

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

FEEDING on the success of the film *Dances With Wolves*, a lyrical autobiography of a half-Cherokee orphan who learnt the ways of nature from his American Indian grandparents, has made its way to the top of the bestseller lists in the United States.

The *Education of Little Tree*, written by the same man who wrote the Clint Eastwood film, *The Outlaw Josey Wales*, has sold more than half a million copies, won the American Bookellers' Association non-fiction award and had Hollywood studios bidding eagerly for film rights. But a history professor yesterday claimed that the book, written by Forrest Carter, was a successful literary hoax and that its author was really a Ku Klux Klan member and anti-Semite.

"The carefully constructed mask of Forrest Carter — Cherokee cowboy, self-taught writer and spokesman for Native Americans — was simply the last fantasy of a man who reinvented himself again and again in the 30 years that preceded his death in 1979," Dan Carter, professor of history at Emory University, wrote in *The New York Times*.

Professor Carter claims that, during research for a biography on the one-time presidential candidate George Wallace, he had found conclusive proof that Forrest Carter was in fact a white supremacist named Asa (Ace) Earl Carter. "Between 1946 and

1973, the Alabama native carved out a violent career in Southern politics as a Ku Klux Klan terrorist, right-wing radio announcer, home-grown American fascist and anti-Semite, rabble-rousing demagogue and secret author of the 1963 speech by Governor Wallace of Alabama: 'Segregation now... Segregation forever'."

Are you a ghost writer?



purports to be the autobiography of the half-Cherokee Little Tree who is orphaned at the age of ten and goes to live with his Native American grandparents in the hill country of Tennessee, where he learns traditional ways of living in harmony with the environment.

Forrest Carter said in interviews before his death that he had never spent more than six months in school and that as an adult he wandered between ranch jobs before finding success as a writer with his novel on the outlaw, Josey Wales. But Professor Carter says he has travelled throughout Tennessee in a vain search for people who knew Forrest Carter or the grandparents who raised him. Forrest Carter's family history disappears before 1976, he asserts.

Identifying the writer as the former executive secretary of the Northern Alabama White Citizens' Council, Professor Carter suggests that he took his new name from the slave trader and Civil War general who founded the original Tennessee Ku Klux Klan in 1866, Nathan Bedford Forrest.

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Mobutu meets key rival to choose new government

By SAM KILEY IN KINSHASA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Mobutu met Etienne Tshisekedi, his long-time rival and prime minister-designate, yesterday to try to agree an emergency government and to end the political violence in Zaire that has killed at least 117 people.

There was no immediate word on the outcome of the meeting, which was held at Marshal Mobutu's riverside palace at N'Sele, outside Kinshasa. Relations between the two men, who are locked in a power struggle for control of the country, have deteriorated sharply since Wednesday when Mr Tshisekedi dubbed Zaire's leader a "human monster".

Yesterday, people scratched in the dust of their looted cities looking for a living. In

Kinshasa, street hawkers began selling the spoils of looting which has destroyed the capital's industrial base and cars clogged the streets in queues to buy dwindling fuel supplies. But as Zaire continued to drift without a government yesterday, Western ambassadors feared a breakdown in law and order across the country lead by the armed forces who, they said, no longer recognise any politician as their commander-in-chief.

France and Belgium, meanwhile, announced the withdrawal of 290 soldiers from Zaire, in spite of opposition calls for Western troops to stay until Marshal Mobutu relinquishes power. The decision to pull out 140 Belgian paratroopers and 150 French troops will leave nearly 1,100 Western soldiers in the country. Most are in Kinshasa. French and Belgian officials said the troops had fulfilled their mission of evacuating more than 9,000 foreigners.

Jordanian appeal on settlers

Amman - Jordan's new foreign minister, Kamel Abu Jaber, said yesterday that his first priority is to ask America, the European Community and Egypt to apply more pressure to stop Israel settling Jews in the occupied territories (Adam Kellier writes).

Mr Jaber said he was confident that American-arranged peace talks between Israel and Arab states, scheduled for later this month, would yield a comprehensive regional peace settlement. "It is probably the most important juncture in Middle East history since the creation of the state of Israel," said Mr Jaber.

Sinking solved

Cape Town - The Greek passenger ship, Oceanos, which sank off South Africa's coast in August, went down because water from a fractured cooling pipe flooded the generator room, according to the findings of David Fiddler, the principal officer of the transport ministry's shipping directorate here. (Reuters)

Cabinet adopted

Nairobi - A broad-based government for Somalia has been sworn in but opposition officials and diplomats fear this could spark fresh fighting. President Ali Mahdi Muhammad's chief of staff refused to recognise the cabinet. (Reuters)

Cavaco Silva makes plea for stability

From MARTHA DE LA CAL IN LISBON

ANIBAL Cavaco Silva, Portugal's prime minister, has called for a vote for continuity in tomorrow's general elections, saying that his government is responsible for the economic achievements of the past four years and that a defeat for his Social Democrat party could usher in a period of instability and dwindling investment.

Senhor Cavaco Silva has also stated that he will resign rather than be forced, through lack of an overall majority, to form a coalition government with either Socialist or Christian Democrat support. During his time in office, he has pushed through legislation to abolish the communist re-formation carried out after the 1974 revolution and has guaranteed political stability to a host of foreign investors attracted by Portugal's cheap

labour and access to generous EC grants and subsidies. One of his biggest achievements was the \$4 billion (£2.3 billion) Ford-Volkswagen plant being built in Sental, south of Lisbon, where bankrupt companies owed months of unpaid salaries and the government had to take emergency measures to stave off hunger.

Jorge Sampaio, the Socialist leader, has emerged in the election campaign as the uncontested leader of the opposition. The Communist party usually polls about 12 per cent of the vote, picked up mainly from the vast southern Alentejo region. Alvaro Cunhal, its ageing leader, has remained for many years a staunch defender of old-line communism, which has driven many party members to join the Socialists.

Heseltine signs deal to protect Antarctic

From HARRY DEBELIUS IN MADRID

BRITAIN was the first nation to sign an agreement here yesterday to leave the Antarctic unspoiled except for scientific research. The accord bans exploration for oil and other minerals for at least 50 years.

The commitment was contained in a protocol that amplifies the 30-year Antarctic Treaty, originally designed to co-ordinate international scientific research. The protocol protects Antarctica's flora and fauna and establishes a procedure to assess the environmental impact of all human activities on the continent. It also regulates marine pollution and waste disposal. About 3,000 people inhabit Antarctica in the summer.

Ecologists hailed the agreement, which is expected to take two years to ratify, as an important victory. Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, said: "This is the protection of the last great wilderness open space. I'm delighted to be here making history."



Dumping ground: a Greenpeace activist examining rubbish from McMurdo Sound, an American scientific base in Antarctica. The group is monitoring waste disposal.

RIO DE JANEIRO NOTEBOOK by Mac Margolis

Brazil city turns a shade of green

A passage through a Third World city can be a dark journey of smog, overfull buses, teeming downtowns, raggedy slums and open sewers. Brazil has its share of urban nightmares, but one metropolis is an exception. Curitiba, the capital of the Brazilian farm belt state of Paraná, is not only one of Brazil's most liveable cities. It is also a model of how simple methods can be applied to seemingly impossible problems.

The success of Curitiba (pop: 1.6 million) is due largely to three-time mayor Jaime Lerner. In the Seventies, when big was beautiful and Third World administrators borrowed abroad to build monuments to metropolitan vanity, Senhor Lerner took a modest approach. Instead of an exorbitant underground system, he dedicated lanes to express buses and built elegant transfer stations. He banned cars from much of the centre and planted 1.2 million trees, giving precious shade and a touch of green to the standard grey cityscape.

As ever more of the Amazon rain forest has

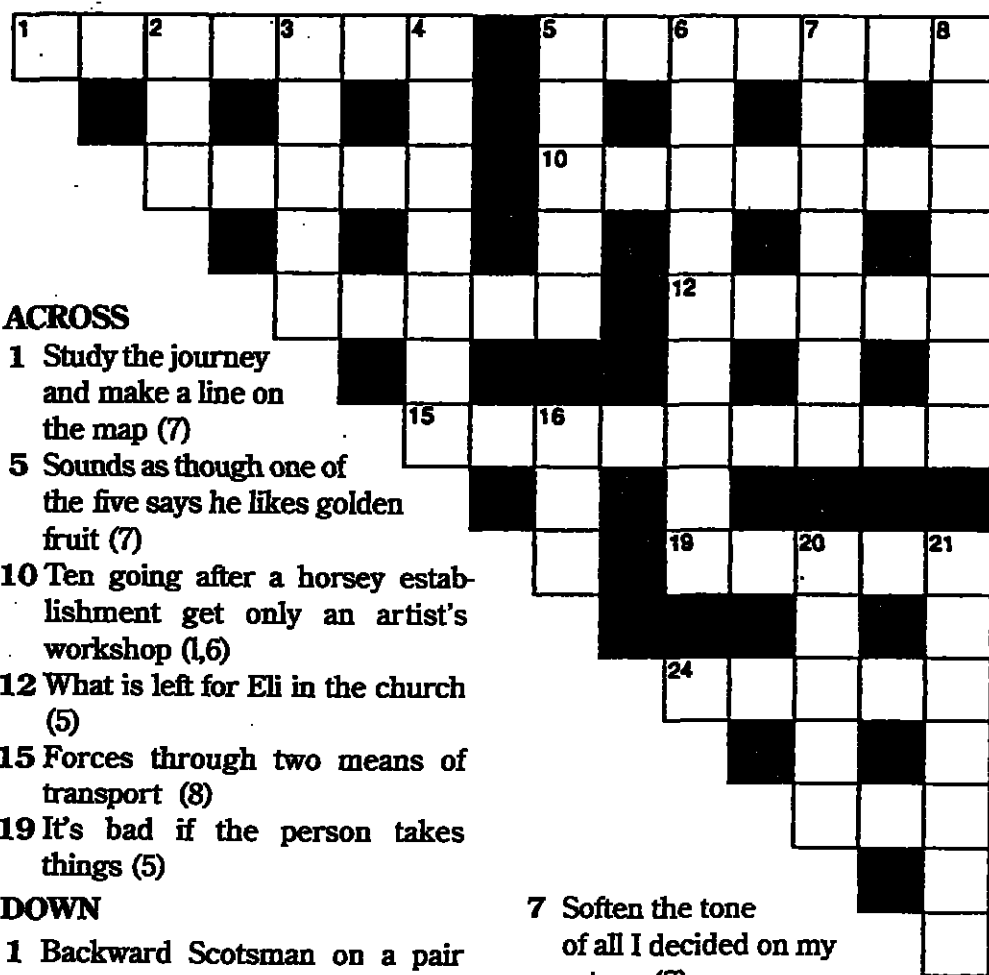
burnt, Brazil has been cast mostly as the villain of the ecological piece. But Senhor Lerner has launched an ambitious rubbish-collection and recycling programme, known as "Trash that isn't trash", which is unprecedented in Brazil. Seventy per cent of citizens take part regularly.

To encourage sanitation in the slums, Curitiba gives away passes or fruit and vegetables in return for rubbish. The system is known as the Green Exchange.

Senhor Lerner's work has won him kudos and consulting jobs within Brazil and without. He had a hand in plans to resuscitate Caracas and redesign the transit system in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He also helped persuade Fidel Castro not to sacrifice Havana's art deco architecture to a subway system. Curitiba has won a UN prize for its recycling schemes. Now he is tempted by another challenge. Brazilian mayoral elections are slated for November 1992, and he admits he would not mind moving to Rio de Janeiro.

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ACROSS

- 1 Study the journey and make a line on the map (7)
- 5 Sounds as though one of the five says he likes golden fruit (7)
- 10 Ten going after a horse establishment get only an artist's workshop (16)
- 12 What is left for Eli in the church (5)
- 15 Forces through two means of transport (8)
- 19 It's bad if the person takes things (5)

DOWN

- 1 Backward Scotsman on a pair mixed a drink (7)
- 2 Is Ann a goon? No, a many faceted thing! (7)
- 3 Part of a former sea shell (5)
- 4 Monarch and artist built an interesting architectural feature (5,4)
- 5 One hears piano notes in the harbour (5)
- 6 Enter, trip, fall over and make intelligible (9)

- 7 Soften the tone of all I decided on my return (7)
- 8 Candlesticks for the chimney seats (7)
- 16 It causes great pressure on the little pest over the lawsuit (9)
- 20 I'm with men of Kent to get something large (7)
- 21 Inordinate stress of pointless, large woods (7)
- 24 Trick father who left frantic (5)

This is the first half of the Telegraph Jigsaw Crossword. If you solve both halves, you could win £1,000. For the second part, and details of how to enter, buy The Sunday Telegraph this Sunday.

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THE TACHTSTADT ORCHESTRA - 10-13 OCTOBER
 London Symphony Orchestra, Michael Tyson Thomas
 12.30pm £

Lynne Truss reviews the Torvill and Dean *Omnibus* and finds the secret of all relationships

Happiness is warmth on the ice

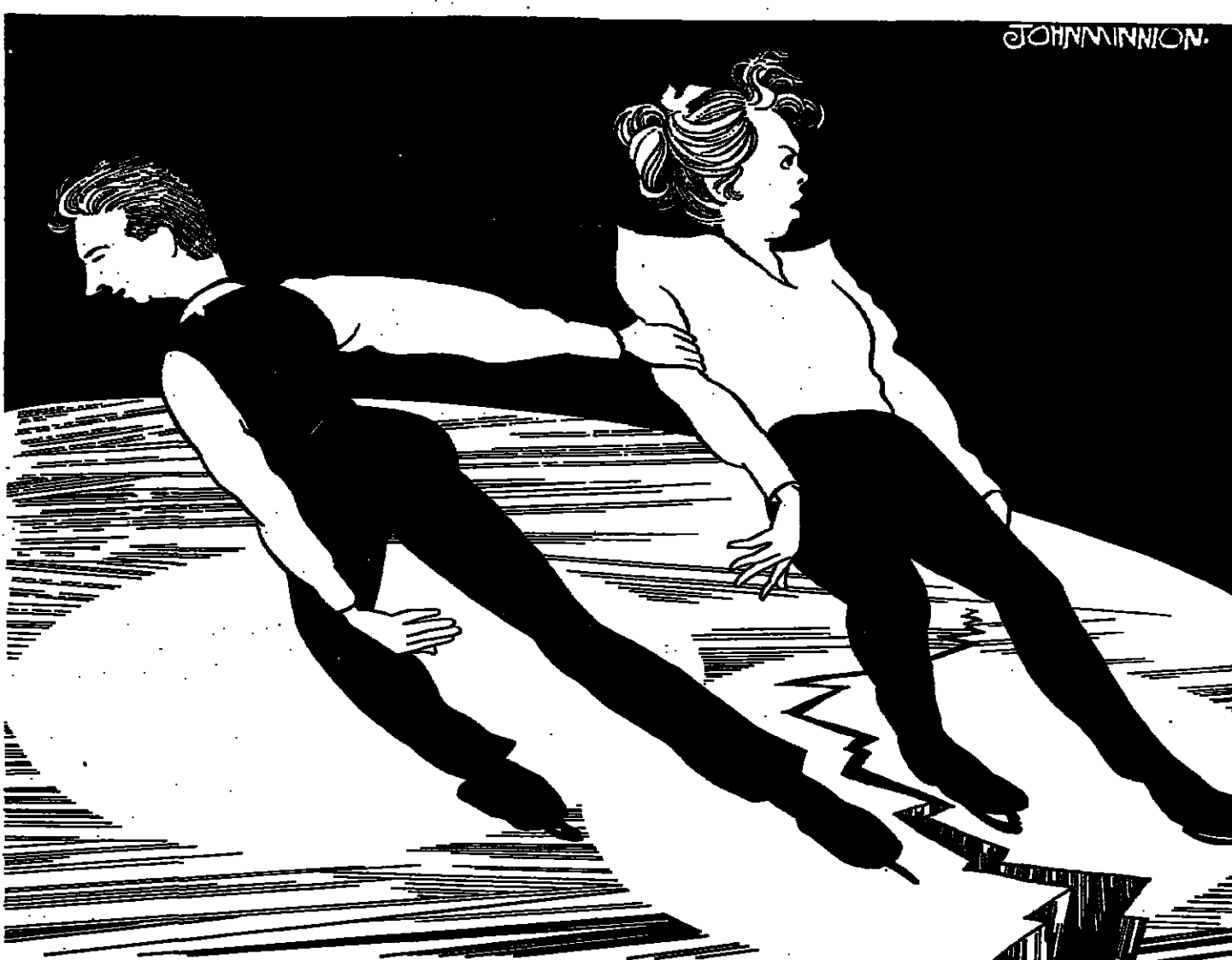
Oddly, the question "But is it art?" never once crossed one's mind during last night's *Omnibus* on the ice-skaters Torvill and Dean (BBC1). Glued to the beauty of it all, holding one's breath at the skill, elegance and ingenuity of their astounding performances, one scarcely had sufficient left-over brain power to make the mental note: "Hey, my cat Buster is watching this too! I wonder if he'd like some states." In such circumstances the question "Should I really be watching this?" understandably fails to raise its head.

Oh, the contradictions of the ice-dance! The warm, soft, colourful bodies amid the cold, hard, white ice; the smoothness of the action, the sharpness of the blades. Forgive the rhapsody, but watching last night's programme, it was difficult to swallow the fact that ice skating had ever been considered solely as a sport.

Suddenly this seemed terribly weird. You mean they got marks out of six for this? You mean that, at one time, there would have been a sportscaster commentary over their routines? Clearly, the fact that they are Olympic world champions gives them a certain edge (like dramatists winning the laurels in 5th-century Athens play competitions), but in the world of the contemporary arts the notion of point-scoring is surely metaphorical rather than literal. Imagine the famous "Three Tenors" concert as a sporting event, with ratings for volume, phrasing and interpretation, ending up with the three blokes ranked one, two and three - on a podium. (Actually, that's not such a bad idea. It might get a few things sorted out.)

Apart from a nice opening sequence showing the manufacture of skate-blades, Bob Portway's film was straightforward. Full-length Torvill and Dean routines were interspersed with interview, and we saw Christopher Dean at work - either choreographing other skating couples, or working with composer Andy Sheppard on the specially commissioned *Ice Works* (a dance for television which rounded off the show). Sometimes we saw him watching ballet-vids, or doing barre exercises with Jayne Torvill. The general impression was that we were being given privileged access to an untutored genius, which was all right by me. One's respect for this man's talent grew exponentially as the programme went on.

Even the sight of Torvill and Dean doing a knee-head was fascinating, because of course they



did it with a characteristically perfect one-behind-the-other unison, two bodies moved by a single thought, like weirdly intuitive twins. It is getting to be a habit, perhaps. We did not see them having a cup of tea or going for a walk, but you could imagine that Dean would always be half a yard behind, emulating every movement.

Dean, perhaps, is the rather obvious one that their drama must always ultimately boil down to Relationships - in common with so much else on television. *Boleto* is about love, bonding, shared tragedy, and matching manne fairy-tale costumes. Ice-skating, especially in pairs, is quite limited, really, two people who will fall over if they stop moving, travel along side by side, basically holding each other up.

Torvill and Dean make a virtue of the limitations, stressing the physical intimacy, the dependence, and the complete exclud-

ing-all-others mutual involvement. They pull apart, they are drawn together; they swap sides, swap hats, pull each other along by the leg, but they are made for one another, and they cannot let go.

Dean recently took the risk of choreographing this rather negative on-not-you-again version of the ice-dancers' destiny. Unsurprisingly, the result was not entirely welcomed by misty-eyed lovers of *Boleto*.

Revolution (danced to the old Beatles number of the same name) is tense and aggressive; they block each other's blows, grab each other's wrists, strut and struggle and narrow their eyes. They are terribly fed up. It might be entitled "Boleto, Five Years Later" or "Where's the Fun, Now that We've Finished Grouching the Bathroom?"

There seemed to be a great deal

of aggressive marital strife on television this week: the searing break-up of James and Charity in *The Men's Room* (BBC1); the bowling-contest in *Two Point Four Children* (BBC1), in which the same players gave after the interval. Yet the world of MacMillan's work shares little with that of Mozart's beyond the instrumentation.

For one thing, not a note of *Tuircadh*, which was composed in memory of the victims of the Piper Alpha disaster, exists as decoration. Instead, MacMillan has written an essay whose eloquence derives from the instruments' unity and immediate reaction with each other, rather than from diversity within the texture or conflict. The means are lean and the scene is set with staggering simplicity: a single, sustained note on the clarinet starting from silence and expanding into a fortissimo of utter

anguish. Then the strings take their turn at another pitch, this time modulating it agonisingly through semitone steps, and thus creating constantly changing but narrow clusters of sound. They congregate again on a trombone. MacMillan's use of such basic devices could have turned his piece into mere sound-effect. But one was able easily to imagine the sounds, and the flavour, of the mysterious, intuitive keening which, the composer's note told us, apparently arose spontaneously when a group of mourners visited the site of the tragedy. From this an eerie chorale emerges; then MacMillan, in a structure which progresses in natural-sounding breath spans, completes the confusing melange of bereavement's emotions with stuttering, angry passages. These are sometimes combined with high-pitched clarinet arabesques.

Finally, the viola's plaintive sigh, a descending semitone, suggests the beginnings of a coming to terms with grief. Nevertheless that grief, deep and harrowing, still exists. If such description cannot possibly do this immensely moving work justice, this performance - several degrees more concentrated than that of Haydn's String Quartet, Op 76 No 5, which preceded it - most certainly did.

"Broken Heart (Thirteen Valleys)" with the crowd enthusiastically adding their football-chant vocalise to the chorus.

However, there is no folk act that gets the kind of response which greeted the opening salvo of "We're Not in Kansas", "King of Emotion" and "Look Away". It looked as if the dance floor had been turned into a giant trampoline, such was the mass of bodies bouncing at the front.

The new material was greeted with more restraint, but the bluesy "Republican Party Reptile" and the country-tinged ballad "Ships" nevertheless dovetailed surprisingly smoothly into the structure of the set. The honky-tonk piano, mandolin and mellow sentiments of "Beautiful People" sat less comfortably in the mix, and an old song about the aftermath of a nuclear holocaust, "Winter Sky", seemed a perversely dated choice, both musically and topically. Better by far was the taut menace of "The Hostage Speaks", with its picaresque lyric and haunting waltz-like soloing from Adamson.

The old standbys, "Chance" and "In a Big Country" gave way to encores including an emotional reading of Neil Young's epic "Rocking in the Free World" and an ill-advised stab at Muddy Waters's cock-of-the-roost anthem "Mannish Boy".

DAVID SINCLAIR

Tale of Country folk

ROCK

Big Country
Town & Country

HAVING reached a creative impasse and suffered grievous financial losses on their 1988 Moscow adventure to promote the *Peace in our Time* album, Big Country were ready to throw in the towel. In the event, only drummer Mark Brzezicki quit. Nevertheless, the group has turned a new page with their latest album, *No Place Like Home*, a radical and inspired departure from the galloping rhythms and skirling guitar sounds of old.

Even so, Big Country remain a band painfully out of joint with the times. Dominated by the thoughtful, honourable and down-to-earth personality of singer and guitarist Stuart Adamson, they have neither the "dangerous" attitude to compete with such young turks as Guns N' Roses or the lofty pretensions of contemporaries like Simple Minds.

If anything, their relationship with their audience is akin to the easy and cosy rapport of a long-established folk act, and indeed halfway through this, the first of a five-night residency, Adamson strapped on an acoustic guitar and asked for requests. The result was an unaccompanied version of

CONCERT

Allegri Quartet
Purcell Room

JAMES MacMillan's *Tuircadh*, given its London premiere by the Allegri Quartet and the clarinetist James Campbell, is that rare animal in contemporary music: a contemplative, sad, mostly slow piece which hits its intended emotional spot exactly. The premise for its inclusion in this concert, as in all of this short series, was the inspiration of Mozart, whose Clarinet Quintet the same players gave after the interval. Yet the world of MacMillan's work shares little with that of Mozart's beyond the instrumentation.

For one thing, not a note of *Tuircadh*, which was composed in memory of the victims of the Piper Alpha disaster, exists as decoration. Instead, MacMillan has written an essay whose eloquence derives from the instruments' unity and immediate reaction with each other, rather than from diversity within the texture or conflict. The means are lean and the scene is set with staggering simplicity: a single, sustained note on the clarinet starting from silence and expanding into a fortissimo of utter

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STEPHEN PETTITT

Bells that now and then ring

THEATRE

A Swell Party
Vaudeville

THIS is the sort of show that was inevitable in the centenary year of Cole Porter's birth. Two actors, two actresses and two pianists assemble on a black stage from which spindly black stairs lead to a black platform. One of them describes the essentials of the composer's life, trying his best to ensure that the songs that interrupt him flow naturally from his narrative. Thus a few sentences about Porter's insomniac worries lead first to "Night and Day", then to "In the Still of the Night". Similarly, a first trip to France is followed by "I Love Paris" and "You Don't Know Paris", and a later, sadder one by "Who Said Gay Parade?". Everyone wears discreet evening dress and sips champagne, lots of it.

Most of the time, David Gilmore's production follows the genre's rules, some might say its clichés. Why not? Anne Wood substituted for the sick Maria Friedman last night, but she proved no less melodious than Angela Richards, David Kernan, Nicholas Grace and the singing pianist, Martin Smith.

THEATRE
Punishment without
Revenge
The Place

WHEN this Lope de Vega tragedy was staged at the Notting Hill Gate last year it received praise from all quarters. Not having seen that, I

There were times when I wondered if all of them, Smith honourably excepted, could use more beef, but then Porter was, so to speak, less rare steak than cold consommé with dry sherry added. Their casual good humour sorted well enough with a composer whose forte was the deft lyric, the wry melody, the debonair celebration of life's sophisticated pleasures.

Yet there are differences from the usual concert compendium, though whether they are bold or perverse depends on your taste. Most of the well-known songs are there, from "Anything Goes" to "Just One of Those Things"; but they sometimes get shorter shrift than ones that I, at least, had never hummed. For example, much is made of "Love for Sale" ("who's prepared to pay the price for a trip to paradise?"), presumably because the show's creators, John Kane and David Kernan, think it reflects Porter's homosexuality and habits of slumming.

Justice is similarly done to a superb number about Manhattan from the show *Red, Hot and Blue* ("I'm deserted, I'm depressed, in my regal eagle's nest, in the depths of the nineteenth floor"). Yet extracts from *Kiss Me Kate* pass in a flash, and "You're the Top", "Well Did You Ever?", "Let's Fall in Love" and "It's

cannot use it as a stick to beat Cori Sherlock's production for Actors Touring Company, but clearly something has gone seriously awry. Gwynne Edwards is an old hand at translating from the Spanish, the ATC has breathed life at other times into a forgotten European classic, and of course the play does have a message for men thinking of leaving a young wife and an



Still of the night: Nicholas Grace, as the debonair Porter

De-Lovely" are crammed into a curt encore.

Nicholas Grace takes the role of Porter, meaning he sings least and speaks most, which in each case is just as well. His baritone may be a mite hoarse, but he can animate the sometimes plodding biographical tidbits. A portrait emerges of a flip hedonist deepened by the riding ac-

cident that left him in permanent pain, a fun man who learnt to wear his griefs bravely. But who cares? What matters is not his life, but his creative legacy. Whatever the caveats, most people will leave the Vaudeville knowing that they don't make composers like him any more.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

generals likely to be in the audience. Illegitimate sons and young wives may be present, conceivably holding hands, but they need consider Lope's play contains any message for them.

Message or no, the play might have shown us something about the 17th century, had Sherlock not dressed the cast in modern suits and trench coats. The double-decker grey panels at the rear of the open-cube set muffled the sound horribly so that only Robert David's Federico, the bastard son, and Neil Salvage as his servant are consistently audible. But it is the dull language that finally sinks the enterprise. "There's no thought that, seeing its desired end, cannot become reality." No matter how true to the original, a two-hour meal of stodge is a fearful way to pass an evening.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Personally, I like Coronation Street best when it is at its least urgent, when Mavis Riley is worrying about her budgie's health or when Bet Lynch is saying: "Ang on, ang on, I haven't smoked me breakfast yet."

Craig Brown, who begins his television review column in *The Sunday Times* tomorrow

Clifford Longley

Our attitude to sex is determined by inherited hypocrisy not true morality

Public soliciting by prostitutes is illegal. So is the reciprocal practice of "kerb-crawling". Thus does the law try to turn off both the supply and the demand for this least respectable of trades. It does so on the principle that prostitution is wrong, but it achieves only the lesser result of making prostitution more difficult, driving it into ever more sordid corners. This is typical of the muddle public policy gets into in Britain when it tries to regulate anything to do with sex. It has not reduced prostitution, nor saved prostitutes, nor improved the moral climate.

Whether there should be any such thing as "public morality" will be one of the growing debates of the 1990s. The broad proposition is at first attractive, almost obvious: society needs "standards". It is when the content of public morality begins to be contentious that the idea starts to collapse under its own weight. Who is to decide its terms? How is it to be upheld, or, if broken, enforced?

And should this include, even rely upon, public shaming of well-known people if they infringe? Should public figures be expected to behave better than anybody else? And what does "better" mean? The allegation of kerb-crawling which precipitated the resignation of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Allan Green, like the allegation of homosexuality which led to the resignation of Lord Dervaird from the Scottish judiciary last year, brings these issues into the open. That public morality should still claim such a blood tribute to its victims — though nobody can quite remember why — is a sign that its sands have finally run out.

It is ignorant to blame the muddle on Judeo-Christian morality, or — on the opposite tack — to maintain that Judeo-Christian morality is under threat and must be defended. The blame cannot be pinned on Jews and Christians so easily, nor do they necessarily have such a stake in the status quo. If any are guilty it is the Victorians, for it was their muddle about sex which laid the foundation for the present one, including the prostitution laws. And the cardinal principle of the Victorian code was not morality, but respectability.

The totem of respectability is the basis of British moral hypocrisy, and there is no praise of hypocrisy in the Bible. Respectability and its obverse, hypocrisy, are the fuel of the sexual prurience, which sells millions of tabloid newspapers and introduces an ache of guilt into millions of sexual relationships of shining purity. Yet the demands of respectability are less related to morality, even to sexuality, than to class. It was a method of social control: of the lower orders by the upper, of women by men, of the unusual by the average. Deification of respectability was a rotten basis for a public sexual morality. The first step in the search for a

healthy morality of sexual conduct has to be the rejection of respectability as the touchstone. Space would then exist for a return to true Judeo-Christian morality. But it is no longer appropriate, if it ever was, to think of imposing this by law, or even by public pressure and the pillorying of infringers in the public stocks. If it has any appeal, that must be on its merits. Stripped of Victorian distortions, the sterling merits of this morality would surprise many people.

Far from an enemy of sex, the Judeo-Christian sexual code is a guide to getting the best out of sex. Before HIV was ever heard of, it was a code for "safe sex", sex which harms nobody, which cements relationships, cultivates love, builds moral maturity and secures family life for children. (It also prevents transmission of disease.) That sex needs such a code is not surprising. Sexual anarchy risks damage to people at their most vulnerable.

Neither in the old sense nor the new, however, can safe sex be imposed by law. The majority of the population no longer subscribes to the view that Old and New Testament teaching, on sex or anything else, is divinely inspired. Those who still believe that it is the Word of God should draw back from insisting that their views be compulsory, even if the power to do so

were in their hands. For when this degree of secularisation is reached, there is little alternative but to privatise sexual morality, accepting that henceforth it can be only a matter of individual choice, albeit also a suitable matter for unashamed debate. This must also mean leaving people free to hurt themselves or each other by their mistakes. Public morality — at least in the sense of a set of restrictions — can only be applied by law in those areas where a public good, such as the protection of children, remains underpinned by consensus. It is hard to stretch that consensus, in 1991, to outlawing the selling of sex for profit.

The ending of the grip of Victorian respectability does not herald the collapse of civilisation. It means replacing laws to enforce "Don'ts" by arguments about "Dos". The apostles of the new kind of safe sex, the anti-HIV kind, have pioneered this positive approach. The overriding principle of Judeo-Christian morality, before it enters into the who-does-what-to-whom of sexuality, has to be "Judge not, lest ye be judged". Nothing starting anywhere else can be called Christian. Such a starting point would be immensely attractive to a society looking for sexual first principles. It would relax the entire debate. It would not take ethics out of sex, but it would sweep away condemnation, blackmail, hypocrisy, bigotry, guilt and all the unhealthy interest in other people's sexual conduct which regularly disfigures public life. Only when we admit the way people are can we discuss how they ought to be.



Green: victim of hypocrisy

Pressure for an independent review of verdicts is irresistible, says David Pannick

Justice cannot wait

Acquitting Catmest Pirbright in P.G. Wodehouse's *The Mating Season*, Esmond the Magistrate concludes: "If there's one thing that gives me the p.p., it's a miscarriage of justice." That Douglas Hurd, former home secretary and now foreign secretary, is similarly aggravated by wrongful convictions, gravely and consistently advanced the cause of reform of the criminal justice system.

On Wednesday, Mr Hurd appeared before the enquiry under Sir John May into the miscarriages of justice which led to the imprisonment of the Guildford Four and the Maguire Seven. In a refreshing display of open government, Mr Hurd gave the enquiry his opinion of the process by which the home secretary has power under the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 to refer cases to the Court of Appeal for reconsideration. His conclusion is that present procedures are "inadequate" to secure justice. He expressed support for the creation of an independent body with the resources to enquire into allegations of wrongful convictions, and

with the power to send cases back to the Court of Appeal.

No sensible person would deny that every day juries up and down the land acquit the guilty. So there is no shame in lawyers recognising that at least occasionally, twelve fallible men and women, acting in good faith and trying their hardest to be fair, will convict the innocent. Once that is made, the only question is what procedures should be adopted by the criminal justice system to rectify such errors.

The present system is obviously not working. The cases of the Guildford Four, the Maguire and the Birmingham Six have undoubtedly done serious damage to the reputation of the legal system and to the confidence of those who work within it. More shocks will be felt in the months to come. Winston Silcott is no hero, but he cannot remain imprisoned much longer for the murder of PC Blacklock at Broadwater Farm in

the absence of any reliable evidence against him. The home secretary, Kenneth Baker, has referred to the Court of Appeal his case and the equally troubling case of Judith Ward, who was jailed for the M62 coach bombing in 1974.

Contrary to popular belief, most lawyers and judges are anxious that justice be done. How could it be, they are asking themselves, that for so many years defendants not guilty of the serious crimes with which they were charged were left to rot in prison? If mistakes were made in a series of such high-profile cases, how many miscarriages of justice have occurred in trials that were not so well-known?

More and more lawyers understand that the majesty of the legal system provides a hopelessly inefficient and imprecise process for establishing the truth. The theatrical tradition of cross-examination, the complex rules about admissible evidence, and the right of the defendant to silence without ad-

verse implications being drawn are all barriers to discovering what actually occurred.

Judges who have conducted public enquiries into matters as diverse as the Brixton riots and the Hillsborough disaster have not impeded their investigations by adopting the procedures that hamper the courts. They choose much more flexible methods of finding the truth.

So it is hardly surprising that the Court of Appeal, constrained as it is by legal procedures, has proved a less than ideal forum for unravelling miscarriages of justice. The judges have, neither the training, the experience, the resources nor the assistance necessary to uncover the facts.

A coalition of Douglas Hurd, the Bar Council, Justice, the Labour Party, Lord Scarman and the Home Affairs Select Committee of the House of Commons might be described as a broad church in

favour of the speedy creation of an independent body to assess alleged miscarriages of justice. Some members of the judiciary, but a declining number, would resist the appointment of any lay committee, which they would consider a threat to their jurisdiction. But Mr Baker would probably find that most judges, concerned about the reputation of the system, understand that reform is not a criticism of their performance but a recognition that those who are skilled in deciding the law are not best equipped to investigate the mistakes made by juries.

After all, the creation of the Court of Criminal Appeal in 1907 was the result of the miscarriage of justice by which Alfred Beck served five years in prison for an offence he had not committed. The public comments of Douglas Hurd, based on his experience of considering recent miscarriages of justice as home secretary, make it criminal for there to be any further delay in implementing reform.

The author is a practising barrister and fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Peter looks west once more

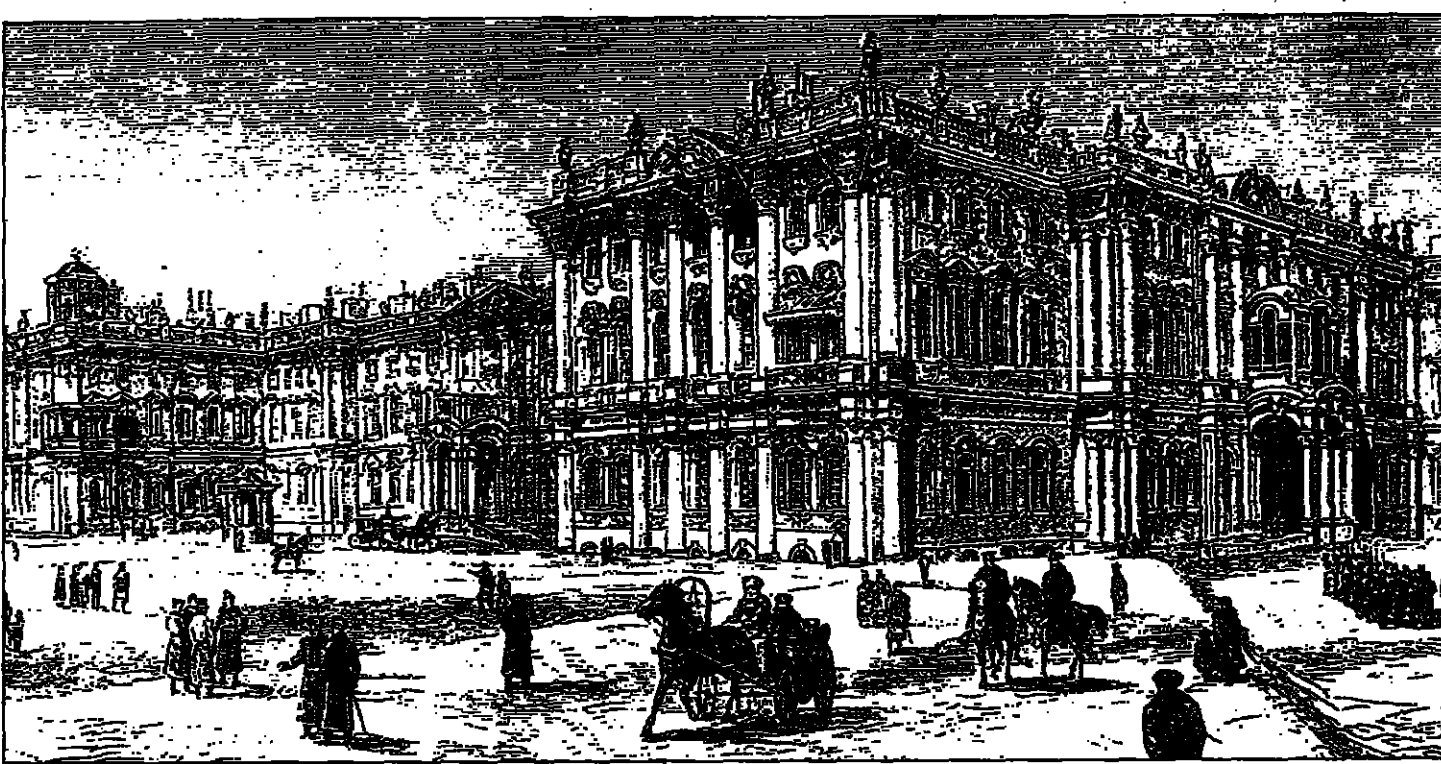
Charles Bremner asks if the historic city on the Neva can be returned to its former glory

Old ghosts are stalking St Petersburg this autumn. They are the same ghosts that inhabited the stately chambers and boulevards of Russia's old capital three-quarters of a century ago. The city is suffused with hope and fear, exhilaration and despair, just as it was when the Bolshevik experiment was hatching. The mixed mood is as palpable as the chill winds now streaming off the Baltic and the morning sun that illuminates the breathtaking sweep of arch and colonnade, the autumn-tinted gardens and the green-and-white glory of the Winter Palace.

Like the rest of Russia, but perhaps more intensely because of its history as the old capital and guardian of Russian culture, Peter's city is once again waiting with some dread. This week it formally cast off the name of Lenin, and now it is purging itself of the dozens of street and district names which celebrated the Red Guard and the 1917 October revolution. It is an exercise that the financially pressed town hall of Mayor Anatoly Sobchak believes is worth every kopek of the 150 million roubles they expect it to cost.

The cruiser *Aurora*, which fired the first revolutionary volley is still moored on the Neva, and a red marble plaque still testifies the city's devotion to Lenin. But the grey pall of communism has lifted. Peter's red and white and sky blue tricolour flies from almost every palace, while the hammer and sickle is invisible except as an irrelevant symbol on the evocative black tsarist tunics of the sailors one sees marching past the busts of Gogol and Lermontov into the imperial academy.

But seven weeks after the failed coup in Moscow, jubilation is giving way to fear about inflation, rationing and surviving a winter of food shortages which are al-



Home of the Tsars: the Winter Palace was maintained by the Soviets but now help is needed to restore many run down buildings

ready stirring memories of the wartime siege. There are fears, too, about the unravelling of Russia that vast, less enlightened hinterland. St Petersburg's gaze is once again fixed firmly westward.

The name of Fabergé, the imperial jewellers, has been restored to the front of their shop in Herten Street, but the interior is still laden with cheap adornments for the proletariat. "It's funny," said one young entrepreneur, that most fashionable of new Petersburg classes, as he strolled past the shop, "we are just getting into the 20th century when you are all leaving it."

That melancholy sense of being left behind at the start of the jazz age, of wasting seven decades in needless sacrifice, is the refrain of almost every conversation. The older generation, communists and those brought up on the ideals of Soviet patriotism, laments the corruption and stupidity that devoured a once noble cause. Among the democrats now running the show under Mr Sobchak at the Mariinsky Palace, there is only anger and disdain for what is

seen as the unmitigated evil of the big lie that was foisted on Russia. A sense of anticlimax and vacuum dominates as the city awaits new directions that, say Mr Sobchak's officials, are so slow in coming from the government, the Russian government that is, not the Soviet centre of Mikhail Gorbachev now deemed an anachronism.

Now communism is gone, there is no clear target for protest, as can be seen from the emptiness of the square in front of St Isaac's Cathedral. A few months ago it was the bustling rallying ground for grievances against the communist state. The grievances are still felt, however, and their expression is growing louder.

In the council, the target is Mr Sobchak himself. The elected deputies are unhappy with the high-handed ways of their mayor, the articulate directly-elected reformer, to whose door Western leaders such as Francois Mitterrand and James Baker have lately been beating a path. His critics are particularly unhappy about his

plan to move his "mairie" as he now calls it, into the Smolny Institute, legendary seat of power of the Petrograd Soviet, and the council to the Taurida Palace, home until 1917 of the Duma.

Outside the Mariinsky there is loud grumbling about the "incompetent democrats" and the empty food shops. Along the faded splendour of Nevsky Prospekt — a street now as down-at-heel as the drunken policeman I saw staggering along it early one afternoon — one sees the frustration in the faces of the children staring at the impossibly expensive goods in the new foreign-owned shops, their bright lighting only serving to deepen the Soviet gloom.

Frustration is echoed, too, on the faces of young hustlers playing foreigners with army caps and other Soviet junk for the grail of hard currency, the key to the other-worldly pleasures glimpsed in the American films now showing all over the town and available from the pirate video booths.

Inevitably, as always in Russia's hardest times, the hunt for scapegoats — Jews and Asians — is

under way. For sale on Nevsky are hate-soaked newspapers such as *Otechena* ("Fatherland"), the latest edition of which denounces the orgies that the "Jews and homosexuals" are said to be staging in the halls of Russia's parliament and the St Petersburg council. To head off the discontent and possible upheaval brought about by cold and penury, the old Leninist area needs to move fast to dismantle the state economic edifice and to jumpstart the free market. Western aid and "know-how" — a Russian Anglicism on the lips of every St Petersburg yuppie — are vital first to supply food and then to adapt the high-technology defence industries of the area.

So far the money is not pouring in. For many Western businessmen, too much political and economic uncertainty hangs over the state of St Petersburg. Mr Sobchak's people say pointedly that they will remember which countries came to their help in these times of need.

Dostoevsky's *Travels*, Saturday Review page 26.



...and moreover
PHILIP HOWARD

We live in an age of specialisation, and that means an age of jargon. A couple of centuries ago, an intelligent person could make a shot at understanding what professionals in other fields were talking about. But the day of the universal man, the Renaissance man, Leonardo or Goethe or Coleridge, has gone. Today we occupy enclosed sects, with esoteric jargons.

There is nobody alive, not the most acute philosopher or the most learned lexicographer, who has a hope of understanding all the languages of the warring sects. Computer programmer speaks to computer programmer, and educationist calls to educationist, and for all it means to those standing outside the business, they might be dinosaurs bellowing at each other across Neolithic swamps.

It is used to be supposed that sociologists used the worst gobbledegook, but they have contributed some of their shiniest jargon to our general stock of language (charisma, Protestant ethic, and so on). Originally, jargon simply meant the inarticulate twittering of birds. Chaucer makes the merchant in *The Canterbury Tales* speak of January as being as full of jargon as a spotted magpie. Media people twitter jargon as badly as the rest of them. We get into the habit of repeating a catchphrase until it drives our readers berserk, and we need a good friend to draw our attention gently to the

irritant. "Jargon" and "boorword" are two on which my needle has got stuck at present. Jargon comes in many shapes. But one definition of it is using words in a way that nobody outside one's own sect or speciality would ever dream of using them. The jargon of other trades is irritating, because it makes us outsiders feel patronised.

It is a jolly irony that just about the worst modern jargons are those whose specialities are language itself and literature. The jargon of deconstruction and post-structuralism is a jungle of aporia into which profane outsiders penetrate at their peril, with Derrida and Barthes lurking in impenetrable undergrowth, and warring forces of signification roaring in the text. The difference between *différance* and *difference* is ambiguous and untranslatable.

One way out of the aporia for those outside the literary departments of universities, those who are not true believers, is the philistine method of Alexander with the Gordian knot. We could cut out the complexities of deconstruction and post-structuralism by dismissing them as meaningless, full of sophistry and illusion, signifying nothing. It is true that there is pseudery and nonsense around in English departments, just as there is in all departments of life. All intellectual heroes have feet of clay, which their fans ignore in the enthusiasm of the cult. But it is improbable that so many

clever men and women would believe in complete nonsense for so long. In the same way, behind the rebarbative jargon of sociology, even the dreaded Takort Parsons has important points to make about the way we live.

Behind the jargon of deconstruction, they have developed interesting new ways of looking at texts. Deconstruction is similar in meaning to analysis, which literally means "undoing". It focuses on rhetoric, the different levels of meaning in a text, and the divisions which lie at the heart of meaning itself. But when Derrida makes his well-known proposition, "*Il n'y a rien hors du texte*" — that is, one cannot evaluate, criticise, or construe a meaning for a text by reference to anything external to it — he is talking nonsense. History, biography, religion, the change of meaning in words, and many other factors are useful in understanding a text. To dismiss them all as irrelevant is characteristic arrogance of enthusiasts.

We need to understand what critical theorists are up to, because it is important, in spite of their jargon and arrogance. A good place to start for the plain man is with J.A. Cuddon's *A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*, which is just out in its third edition. Its size confirms that literary criticism has one of the largest jargons. Its generous humanity helps you to tell your *différance* from your *difference*, without saying that all previous critics have got it wrong.

For the benefit of Mr Major

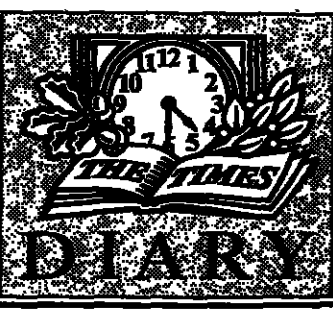
A FRESH insight into the colourful career of John Major's theatrical father is exciting the prime minister's family this weekend. Some time ago Terry Major-Ball, the prime minister's brother, appealed for information about the career of their father, with the thought of writing a biography. Now a London bookshop has turned up an unknown poster of nearly 80 years ago, which it plans to present to the prime minister.

The poster, dated June 8, 1914, lists Tom and Kitty Major as the third act in a variety night at the Argyle Theatre of Varieties, which was flattened during a second world war bombing raid.

David Drummond, owner of the London specialist bookshop Pleasures of Past Times, says: "It must have been tucked in the back of the drawer about 15 years ago



when no one had heard of John Major. It's an extraordinary find." The prime minister's brother Terry agrees. "It's a fascinating discovery. I have done extensive research on our family history and have not found any such posters. I



hope after people read about this others may turn up. I know John will be excited; I keep him in touch with all my research."

Major's mother, Gwen, a dancer regularly appeared in Tom and Kitty's act as a dancer. Kitty died in 1928, and Gwen and Tom were married the following year. But as ever in politics, there are strings attached. The bookshop which found the poster is threatened with closure, crippled by high rents and the business rate element of the poll tax. Drummond is writing to John Major about the find — and hopes at the same time to enlist the prime minister's aid over the plight of his and other bookshops in Cecil Court, the famous London passageway.

Instant history

PRESIDENT GORBACHEV has done rather well out of the failed August coup. Not only did he get his old job back, but he has now picked up \$500,000 for writing an account of his three-day stay in the Kremlin dachau under house arrest. That works out at \$1,157 for every minute he was there. Mike Tyson and Frank Sinatra probably earn faster, but this puts the president in an elite league. The book, to be called *August Coup*, has been bought by HarperCollins, and the 74-page account will appear "by the end of the month."

The book promises to be gripping — providing, says Peter Frank of Essex University, that a fine writer is lined up to assist with the words. Gorbachev, for all his qualities is no Leo Tolstoy. "Books in the past by both Gorbachev and Raisa have been interesting in parts but have suffered from being written in Sov-speak," says Frank.

As Haiti discovered this week, one sure sign of a military coup is the replacement of news broadcasts with round-the-clock classical music, or "coup music", as it has become known. Chopin's "Revolutionary Etude", Shostakovich's second symphony "October Revolution", or his twelfth, "The year 1917", were classic Cold War examples. Among Haiti's more appropriate offerings this week have been Berlioz's "March to the Scaffold" and Verdi's "The Force of Destiny".

National stage

LITTLE-KNOWN secrets of the House of Commons wartime role are due to be unveiled next week at an exhibition to mark the 50th anniversary of the bombing of parliament.

The exhibition, at the Museum of London, will reunite the surviving members of Westminster's very own Dad's Army, the parliamentary home guard unit, and will detail the plans, never realised, to evacuate both houses to Stratford-upon-Avon, where the Commons would have debated in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and the Lords in the conference hall.

Somerset de Chair, now aged 80, who as an MP urged Winston Churchill in 1941 to hold an architectural competition for the restoration of the Commons chamber, says: "I forced a division, but I was the only vote in favour, with about 330 against. The debate took place in the Lords, which was

virtually undamaged. Churchill was determined that Sir Giles Gilbert Scott should carry it out."

Wall finds the door

ON THE EVE of the Tory party conference, one of the last surviving figures of the Thatcher era in Tory central office has decided to quit. As predicted here four months ago, Christine Wall, who was hand-picked by Mrs Thatcher to head the press office and act as her eyes and ears in Central Office, is resigning for a job in industry.

Wall, the senior press officer, who has continued to accompany Mrs Thatcher on many of her overseas trips, has been unhappy since John Major introduced a new broom. She has never seen eye to eye with the new party chairman, Chris Patten, or his director of communications, Shaun Woodward.

Now her decision to take a job with Nestlé, instead of joining the Thatcher Foundation as had been expected, fuels rumours that funding of the foundation is in serious trouble.

Oh dear. London Buses' latest advertising campaign rails — quite rightly — against selfish motorists who park their cars in bus lanes. Unfortunately the advert shows a 149 bus alongside a bus-stop which clearly says "Camden Town". The advert then accuses the motorists parked in front of the bus of disrupting the lives of 61 local people. But the 149 route runs from Enfield to Mansion House and doesn't go anywhere near Camden. "We admit that it was staged as it's terribly difficult to get real shots of that kind of incident," says a spokesman. A photographic expert employed stronger words: "No question about it — the picture is a classic past-up job." A complaint to the Advertising Standards Authority cannot be far away.



BR'S BLIGHTED LINK

John Major's decision to postpone the election until next year is already devastating Whitehall with "decision blight". Nowhere is this more glaring than over the high-speed rail link from London to the Channel tunnel. Ministers who like to portray British government as a well-oiled machine compared with the inert regimes of Italy and Spain should hang their heads in shame.

Despite knowing from the start that the Channel tunnel project would be riddled with public-sector implications including overt or covert subsidies, ministers find themselves crippled with indecision whenever called upon to say yes or no, whether to a grant or a planning permission. Malcolm Rifkind at transport and Michael Heseltine at environment are patently praying for new jobs rather than face the hostility of Kent, the railway, the tunnel interests and the Treasury. Never have so many been held to ransom by the fink of so few.

The first fault lies with Margaret Thatcher's notorious 1987 Channel Tunnel act and all those who willed it through cabinet. It contained clauses preventing public subsidy for capital and operating costs, for tunnel, rail link and terminals. The traveller who bought a ticket for Paris at King's Cross or Waterloo was to be conveyed to his destination without a penny of taxpayers' money to speed him on the way. No minister at the time believed any of this, as the French derisively pointed out. The chickens have now come home to roost.

There has always been a simple way out: to treat the high-speed link as a new bit of commuter railway to be leased to grateful tunnel users. Thus could the government make sure a route was declared, termini built and British industry and its railways covered in the same glory now beckoning the French. This idea has been round Whitehall for four years without anybody daring to bring it to fruition.

The latest sign of the fiasco is at Ashford. Prefab huts have had to be proposed because nobody can say from which pot should come

the money (extravagantly put at £188 million) that BR needs for a proper station. It is already too late to have a new station in time for the first trains in June 1993. The government, recognising that the dogma behind clause 42 of the 1987 act is now untenable, should step in with specific loans or grants to enable the station to be built as soon as possible.

The 1987 act did not preclude public expenditure of £58 million for extensions to the south Kent motorway network to improve roads to the tunnel terminals, which made nonsense of the no-subsidy rule. Why public policy should favour road rather than rail travel in this way was never explained. Such was the government's anti-rail prejudice that it would neither charge for use of the roads, thus equalising competition with rail, nor subsidise rail, equalising competition with the roads.

The same muddle applies to the tunnel's direct competitors, ferries and airports, who continue to enjoy millions of pounds in duty-free subsidies not permitted the railways. Nor did the 1987 act stop subsidy — officially public support for London commuter services — for the upgrading of the existing rail routes in Kent, costing £1.5 billion, in preparation for the tunnel's opening before the high-speed link is built.

British Rail has now submitted its "preferred route" for the new railway to the government to be considered by the cabinet in the next few weeks. Battle is already joined between Mr Rifkind and Mr Heseltine over these routes, between the King's Cross and Stratford East termini respectively. The chief difference between them is that the BR-Rifkind-King's Cross route is the most central, the most sensible, the most easily cross-subsidised and the most likely to be built. The chief virtue of the Stratford route is that it is as yet unplanned and unsecured. It thus offers everybody a golden opportunity to hesitate and delay beyond an election. Such are among the real costs of Mr Major's election decision.

JAPAN'S POLITICAL MYSTERIES

If few Westerners understand Japan, fewer still will understand the unexpected resignation of its prime minister, Toshiki Kaifu. The country takes its place at the top table at all international organisations, as the wealthiest, second most powerful industrial democracy in the world. Increasingly, Japan is regarded as part of "the West". It is not. Its byzantine politics reflect a society still largely unchanged by Western ideas and values.

The resignation on Thursday of Ryutaro Hashimoto, the finance minister, revealed long-standing acceptance of intrigue and business practices incomprehensible elsewhere. The decision yesterday by the prime minister not to resist the intense pressure on him from party elders to step down next month underlines again the veiled nature of power in Japan's factional democracy.

Mr Kaifu has been forced out of office after only two years, despite domestic popularity and a good recovery of his Liberal Democratic Party from embarrassing scandals that toppled his two predecessors. He was chosen as a "Mr Clean" who was a compromise choice from the smallest of the five main factions. Using his popularity, he was emboldened to tackle the international issues that were isolating Japan among its friends.

Foreign policy for Mr Kaifu, as for most of his predecessors, was essentially a means to buff up his domestic image. This did not protect him from the failure of the package of domestic political reforms, forced on the reluctant party by the Recruit scandal. When it failed to win approval, the party heaved a sigh of relief and deserted him.

The machine, it seems, has won. His successor will probably come from a trio of powerful men behind the scenes: Kiichi Miyazawa and Michio Watanabe, former finance ministers, or Hiroshi Mitsuoka, a former trade minister. None is an outstanding politician. And none is likely to alter the central thrust of Japanese policy.

In the West a new leader emerges from the rough-and-tumble of confrontational politics, and seeks to establish his own profile and line. In Japan politics works by consensus. No single politician can give a response until all views have been solicited — as the West has found to its exasperation. More importantly, politicians in Japan do not make policy. This is drawn up by bureaucrats, senior civil servants who are usually well-educated, well-travelled, versed in Western ways and able to prepare briefing papers to which ministers stick rigidly. Apart from Yasuhiro Nakasone, the former prime minister, virtually no Japanese politician is able to think on his feet, articulate policy or negotiate in a one-to-one session.

All this is in keeping with a long tradition of courtesy, consensus, indirect negotiation and the subjection of individuality to society's common aspirations. Life in Japan is very different from the image given by consumer products that are perfectly tailored to a Western way of life. A more accurate portrayal is given by the current Japanese exhibition in Britain, itself planned and organised entirely by Japanese.

Yet pressure for change is growing. It comes mainly from a different and often disaffected younger generation in Japan, more influenced by Western ideas, more individualistic and outspoken than their elders. And with the end of the cold war, the American political and defence shield will be removed. Japan will have to start thinking more for itself on foreign relations, defence and international security. Its politicians must begin to show the initiative and energy demonstrated so far almost exclusively in the country's vibrant industry and trade.

Without much insight into the country, the West has made much of the Japanese economic challenge. Japan's ruling establishment is at last beginning to understand the political challenge of the West.

DISCRETION OF THE VALIANT

The Bomber Command Association should abandon its project to erect a statue to Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris outside St Clement Danes in the Strand. For the veterans of Bomber Command, whose British and Commonwealth aircrews lost 55,573 dead in the highest British casualty rate of the war, the absence of a public tribute to their leader may be bitter. But it is justified by more than the danger of reopening old wounds, evidenced by *The Times* story last week that German mayors, led by those of Dresden and Pforzheim, objected strongly to the statue.

Correspondence on the story, as on this page today, indicates that partisan emotions are still aroused by Harris's war record. The public was deceived by the government about the indiscriminate nature of the night raids, and in the absence of any other way of hitting Germany itself, the strategic air offensive was a morale-booster at home. A *Times* leader voiced the country's mood after the first thousand-bomber raid: "These first blasts of the whirlwind that Hitler, who sowed the wind at Warsaw and Rotterdam, has now to reap have raised the spirits of the fighters for freedom everywhere."

Churchill used area bombing as a substitute for the second front in his diplomatic poker-game with Stalin. All along, Churchill willed the end: Harris merely gave him the means. The means was the "de-bussing" of as many Germans as possible; the end was to break their morale. The policy failed. Some 600,000 German civilians died, but the Nazi war machine did not break until the spring of 1945. Harris's superiors never persuaded

him to switch the huge bomber force he had built by 1944 to concentrate on precise targets such as oil refineries or transport. But neither was he dismissed.

The area bombing of cities continued unchecked by anything except resources. These were colossal: some historians put the figure as high as one third of the entire British war effort. Harris was supported by the public, military commanders and politicians alike until almost the end of the war and he used his reputation to ignore protests from Bishop Bell of Chichester and others, and override the scruples of deeply worried subordinates.

Only with the destruction of Dresden three months before the armistice did public opinion, and Churchill, turn against saturation bombing. Once Germany was occupied and the scale of the devastation became clear, Harris was made the scapegoat. He died seven years ago. But he never pretended he was only obeying orders. He was a fanatical believer in carpet bombing of civilians and once said that all the cities of Germany were not worth the bones of a British grenadier.

Harris was undoubtedly treated shabbily but the policy of which he was so outspoken an advocate was a severe blot on Britain's war record. What was reprehensible was that his treatment should have diminished the reputation of his brave men. They received no campaign medal. They at least deserve proper commemoration; their association should direct itself to that end.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

A 'grand debate' urged to resolve Britain's doubts on future role in Europe

From Lord Harris of High Cross and others

Sir, Whatever may be thought to be the "correct" balance between concessions and standing firm in the negotiations leading up to the Maastricht conference, the dominant pressures on the government will be to concede too much, in the hope of minimising friction with our European partners in the run-up to a general election in the new year.

The fiasco of the short-lived Dutch draft treaty (report and leading article, October 1) illustrates how far the historic issue of Europe's future can become the playing-field of cynical compromises struck as by-products of short-term, domestic pressures, to the neglect of enduring constitutional, economic and political principles.

Although the prime minister did well to help see off the Dutch draft, a return to the Luxembourg version provides no comfort. The removal of the word "federal" would do nothing to expunge centralising ambitions from the minds of many participants whose domestic politics are governed by coalitions committed in varying degrees to corporatism, co-determination and other collectivist fancies.

Would not the strengthening of the Commission and the Euro-Parliament at the expense of the Council of Ministers, and the wholesale extension of qualified majority voting far beyond the single market, increasingly supplant Westminster and threaten to undo the British liberalisation of the 1980s, which

has had much more influence in the East than in Western Europe? If economic union led to a single European money would that not effectively mean a single European chancellor of the exchequer?

These and many other centralising tendencies are supported by some European partners, perhaps less from conviction than in contemplation of massive subsidies provided by the Community to accommodate their less-developed economies to the rigours of monetary union and the costs of uniform minimum wages, welfare, working conditions and so on. Would not all this in turn raise prohibitive barriers against new members from Eastern Europe?

In defence and foreign policy, majority voting would inevitably commit Britain to action — or inaction — at the behest of often petty European calculations that ignored Britain's wider interests. Must we not ensure that our North Atlantic and Commonwealth commitments remain of paramount concern?

Do the British people want all — or much — of this? Does support for Europe in opinion polls mean enthusiasm for any old — or new — Europe? How many fully understand what is at stake? Should not party leaders want to know what voters really think on these momentous issues? Do they not need to know, before they contemplate signing solemn treaties in the name of the British people?

There is no secret that both

Conservative and Labour parties are divided on this issue in Parliament, as no doubt are their supporters, present or potential, in the country. The Liberal Democrats alone are committed to some vision of European federalism, but might not even they have some reservations?

It may serve the immediate cause of party leaders to damp down discussion on the European issue for fear of exposing or exacerbating internal divisions. But what about the larger, permanent cause of democracy? If any government moves further or faster towards political and economic union than informed opinion would currently welcome, it can hardly rely on party loyalty to head off an embittered reckoning, should things turn out less happily than uncritical federalists now hope.

Before conceding or withholding approval of any binding commitment at Maastricht in eight weeks' time, HM government needs some assurance that its fateful decision will have the informed support of the British people. It simply will not do to negotiate in secret and then rely on the whips to force the resulting compromise through Parliament.

What is urgently required is a much more open, wide-ranging public debate. Some of us believe the best focus would be a campaign for a referendum on this issue, but that of course raises such difficulties as phrasing the question and timing a decision. The undersigned would therefore welcome a "grand debate"

on Britain's future in Europe and beyond, to be conducted without the inhibition so convenient to myopic party managers.

As a start we urge editors, radio and television producers to give more space and time to airing the issues and encouraging the full expression of rival opinions. A lesson we would commend to voters from the successful campaign against Sunday trading is that the most sensitive targets for registering public attitudes on specific issues. Let constituents make their views known to their members, who in turn should be asked to declare where they stand.

We believe there are few issues of more profound historic and everyday practical import than the good governance of Britain and its future relations with all nations of Europe — and far beyond.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
NORMAN BARRY, BAUER,
JOHN BURTON,
CHAPPEL OF HOXTON,
TIM CONGDON, DENNING,
DEVONSHIRE, KEITH JOSEPH,
BERNARD JUBY,
WILLIAM LETWIN,
MARSH, PATRICK MINFORD,
KENNETH MINOGUE,
B. G. ROBERTS,
HAROLD ROSE,
HARTLEY SHAWCROSS,
STODDART, TONYFANDY,
ALAN WALTERS,
4 Walmar Close, Hadley Wood,
Barnet, Hertfordshire,
October 4.

Should the DPP have resigned?

From Mr Keith Evans

Sir, I met Allan Green, whose resignation as Director of Public Prosecutions you report today, during my, and his, first week at Cambridge way back in 1955. I liked him the moment I met him and I have liked him ever since.

Allan is one of the kindest, nicest men in England. He was the straightest, fairest and most effective prosecutor I ever encountered — and I encountered most of them — and at a time when England's system of criminal justice had devolved into such a shameful mess. He was one of the brightest lights in the darkness, many would say the brightest light. He was the best director of public prosecutions within living memory.

What is so utterly appalling is that we all seem to be taking it for granted that he must now go. Are the British as hypocritical as that? Times have changed, sexual mores have changed, attitudes have changed.

When I started at the bar nearly 30 years ago divorce was still regarded as shameful; homosexuality was in the cupboard and criminal into the bargain, adultery an actionable offence. Whether we like it or not, things are different now, and the idea of losing one of England's finest public servants for this kind of reason and without pausing to think it over for a moment is rank stupidity.

Which, after all, is more reprehensible — drink-driving or what Allan is supposed to have done? Drink-driving risks killing and paralysing innocent victims, yet at least two of England's most senior judges have been guilty of that offence. Did they resign? Of course not.

One of the facts of life is that even the most intelligent of men can be knocked off balance by sexual stupidities. It has happened all the way through history and always will. Surely the time has come for a bit of straight thinking. Allan Green is a top-class DPP. England needs him and his kindly wisdom in these difficult times. Let everyone who knows the quality of his work and the quality of his humanity rise up and demand that his resignation be withdrawn.

It would be a heartening commentary on the English people at the end of the 20th century if Allan Green were restored to his office by acclaim.

Yours etc.,
KEITH EVANS,
Gray, Cary, Ames & Frye
(Attorneys at Law),
401 B Street,
San Diego, California 92101,
October 4.

From Mr David Holbrook
Sir Nicholas Fairbairn declares, on the radio, over the resignation of the DPP, that people in high places should not be penalised for events that take place in their private lives. But a person who commits adultery must surely be liable to be duplicitous and to tell lies. In a word, he or she demonstrates unscrupulousness. Does Sir Nicholas mean that this does not matter nowadays?
Yours etc.,
DAVID HOLBROOK,
Denmore Lodge,
Brunswick Gardens, Cambridge,
October 4.

Small change

From Mr Tom Bannister
Sir, My bank has received a cheque for refund of Danish tax deducted from a small dividend on shares. The refund is for 48 kroner; its value, at an exchange rate of 11.335, is £4.23. The bank requires £7 to negotiate the cheque.

I am returning it to the Danish tax authorities, requesting that it be donated to a children's charity.
Yours faithfully,
TOM BANNISTER,
309 Bloomfield Road, Bath, Avon.

Hindsight on the ethics of saturation bombing

From Sir Frederic Bennett

Sir, Mr William Hetherington (October 3) is quite right to point out that it is not only Germans who are disturbed by the proposals to erect a statue to "Bomber" Harris.

There were many serving in the forces during the last war, including humbly myself, who felt unhappy about saturation bombing of civilian populations, whichever contestants indulged in it.

Let us ask ourselves what would be the reaction today of the average Briton if he or she were to read that the Germans proposed to erect a new memorial, now, in Berlin, honouring the senior Luftwaffe officer responsible for ordering the bombing of Coventry.

Yours etc.,
F. M. BENNETT,
2 Stone Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

From Mr Arthur Davis

Sir, Cities and citizens have been in the front line of total war at least since the aerial bombardments of China by Japan and of Guernica by the Germans in the thirties. I doubt if the citizens of Dresden would have preferred to change places with the inhabitants of Leningrad, the Warsaw ghetto, or Oradour-sur-Glane.

Whether great military or other exploits should be memorialised, whether they should be memorialised in public statues, whether they should be memorialised in statues of actual people — these are the questions that should give the proponents of the "Bomber" Harris scheme pause, particularly in the light of the fact that his recently befallen a number of public personages in eastern Europe and other parts of the former Soviet "empire".

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR DAVIS,
14 Queens Gate Gardens, SW7.

From Dr H. G. Muller

Sir, I read with disbelief and disgust that a monument is to be erected to "Bomber" Harris.

Certainly, a public remembrance to the very brave British airmen is long overdue, so long as the names of the instigators of the barbarity are not mentioned.

I survived the air raids on Cologne as a teenager.
Yours faithfully,
H. G. MULLER,
10 Tredgold Crescent,
Bramhope,
Leeds, West Yorkshire,
October 3.

Unity through golf

From Sir Anthony Grant, MP for Cambridge South West (Conservative)

Sir, While I agree with much of Mr Howard's letter (October 1), may I say that the one depressing feature of an otherwise magnificent Ryder Cup match was the crowd frenzy it seemed to engender. Partisan hysteria is endemic in soccer and boxing and recently, alas, in one-day cricket.

It will be said if golf, the last bastion of sporting etiquette, becomes afflicted. Why cannot people these days enjoy a sporting contest without losing control of themselves?

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY GRANT,
House of Commons.

Harvest boon

From the Reverend J. Bramley
Sir, Despite the present economic gloom and belt-tightening days, our local high school's harvest festival reflected a more optimistic climate. A tin of caviar was displayed amongst the harvest produce.

Is this a more reliable indication of the nation's economic recovery than the Chancellor's recent claims?
Yours faithfully,
JEFFREY BRAMLEY,
29 Dundalk Lane, Cheslyn Hay,
Walsall, West Midlands.

From Mrs R. N. Harrison

Sir, The narrow arguments about a memorial to Sir Arthur Harris illustrate a national embarrassment about the need, in war, to attack as well as to defend. On those terms it is acceptable to have young men

exult in the sight of enemies going down in flames, but to acknowledge the deaths of Bomber Command aircrew doing what was their duty in wartime.

The lack of official recognition of the unequalled courage of the young men who, with the country's blessing, took the war back to the enemy cruelly diminishes the self-sacrifice of those who died. No medal, no annual service but periodic reassessments, with hindsight, of Bomber Command's wartime role — these demonstrate the nation's desire to appear always to defend, never to attack.

Yours faithfully,
NANCY HARRISON,
The Long Acre, Silver Street,
Minety, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

From Professor Emeritus J. K. Russell

Sir, From January 1943 until the middle of 1944, I was a medical officer in RAF Bomber Command. Civilians often stopped me in the streets of London and thanked me for "what you are doing". (As I generally wore a raincoat or greatcoat they failed to appreciate that I was merely a medical officer.) None ever questioned or criticised the bombing campaign.

In the closing weeks of the war, when I was with the RAF formation that helped to liberate Copenhagen, I met a number of English-speaking Wehrmacht and Luftwaffe officers. Several made the point that the first serious doubts they had about the outcome of the war came when, on leave, they saw the devastation caused by RAF attacks on their homeland, until then regarded as inviolate.

There has, I believe, been a persistent failure to recognise the effect the RAF's bombing campaign had on the morale of the British and their enemies. The erection of a statue to Harris would be fitting recognition, albeit belated, to the thousands of aircrew who lost their lives in bringing home to the enemy the full horror of the aerial warfare which they started.
Yours faithfully,
J. K. RUSSELL,
Newlands, Tranwell Woods,
Morpeth, Northumberland.

Darwin's children

From Professor William T. Stearn

Sir, Fiona McCarthy (Saturday Review, September 28) refers to Charles Darwin, having married his cousin, "fathering so many sickly, backward and neurotic children, who showed all the signs of being inbred".

Admittedly three died in infancy, as did many Victorian children. However, of the surviving "sickly, backward" ones, William, a successful banker, lived to 75; Henrietta, author, to 87; George, FRS, professor of astronomy, Cambridge, to 67; Elizabeth, to 73; Francis, FRS, lecturer in botany, Cambridge, to 77; Leonard, major in the Royal Engineers, to 93; Horace, FRS, founder of the Cambridge Instrument Company and mayor of Cambridge, to 79.

Election to the Royal Society, like the Royal Academy, may at times be erratic but "backwardness", except as manifested by three of Darwin's sons, has never been a qualification.

Outbreeding maintains variability and evolutionary potential but occasional inbreeding, as in the Darwin-Wedgwood family, may concentrate the good qualities of a good stock.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM T. STEARN,
17 High Park Road,
Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

From Lord Deramore

Sir, The erection of a statue of Sir Arthur Harris is long overdue, as Mr Alan Bramson says (September 30). Sir Arthur was appointed Commander-in-Chief Bomber Command in February 1942, but had a long record of service to this country before that date, having been born in 1892 and fought in the first world war with the Royal Flying Corps.

In claiming that Bomber Command's Firebomb offensive was "militarily senseless" (report, September 28) the German council leaders ignore a published statement by Albert Speer [Hitler's architect]: "As far as I can judge from the accounts I have read no one has yet seen that this was the greatest battle lost on the German side. The losses from the retreats in Russia or from the surrender of Stalingrad were considerably less. Moreover, the nearly 20,000 anti-aircraft guns stationed in the homeland could almost have doubled the anti-aircraft defences on the eastern front."

Yours sincerely,
DERAMORE,
Hestington House, Aislaby,
Pickering, North Yorkshire.

From Mr John A. Atkinson

Sir, I have been in correspondence with the German President, Dr Richard von Weizsäcker, and am pleased to quote from his speech to the Bundestag on May 8, 1985, the fortieth anniversary of the cessation of hostilities, a copy of which he sent me. A relevant passage translates: "May 8 was a day of liberation. It liberated all of us from the system of National Socialist despotism which despised human beings."

When the statue of "Bomber" Harris is unveiled next year I shall think of him and the 55,000 young men of Bomber Command who gave their lives in the cause of the liberation which President Weizsäcker so graciously acknowledged.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN A. ATKINSON,
Colichemede, 79 Hadlow Road,
Tonbridge, Kent.

From Mr D. B. Sinclair

Sir, This country owes a debt to all who fought in the second world war, but why spend £100,000 on a memorial to one man? Surely a plaque costing up to, say, £5,000, with the balance being used to help either the young or ex-servicemen or their families would be more appropriate.
Yours faithfully,
DAVID SINCLAIR,
Vine Farmhouse, Ilington,
Alton, Hampshire.

Spreading doubt

From Mr Roger J. Southam

Sir, I sympathise with Mr Rigby's difficulty (letters, September 30, October 2) in finding a suitable comestible verb to describe buttering his bread. However, I have still to yet find a suitable comestible substitute.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER J. SOUTHAM,
Chainbow Holdings PLC,
Hope House,
Great Peter Street, SW1.

From Dr J. Caisley

Sir, The French, of course, have already thought of it — to *tariner*.
Yours sincerely,
J. CAISLEY,
51 High Street,
Hungerford, Berkshire.

From Mr David N. F. Logan-Brown

Sir, The word Mr Rigby is looking for is "ruin".
I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
DAVID N. F. LOGAN-BROWN,
4 Ashgrove Court,
Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire.

Weekend Money letters, page 30

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

BBC 1

- 8.40 The Train Now Departing: The Long Drag. The Settle to Carlisle railway (r)
- 9.10 News and weather 9.15 In Touch with Healing presented by Mike Woodcock
- 9.30 This is the Day. Tony Phelan talks to Sheila Lewis who lost her daughter 25 years ago in the Aberfan disaster
- 10.00 See Hear! A report from India on the work of Ian Stillman, founder of a training centre for young deaf adults. Wales: No More Nightingales
- 10.30 Deutsch Direkt (r). Wales: Skilshop 10.55 Fast Feasts (r)
- 10.55 No More Nightingales. The role of nurses in the 1990s. Wales: See You Sunday 1.50 Skilshop. Advice on jobs and training
- 12.00 The Colour Eye. Colour in Fashion. With Zandra Rhodes (r)
- 12.30 Country File. John Craven considers a vision of rural Britain in the year 2050. Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55 Weather
- 1.00 News followed by On the Record. Jonathan Dimbleby talks to Chris Patten, chairman of the Conservative party, about the party's conference which begins on Tuesday
- 2.00 Eastenders. Omnibus edition (r). (Ceefax) (s)
- 3.00 Dallas. Continuation. Feature length final episode of the Ewing of saga. (Ceefax)
- 4.25 Driveline. A documentary about the BBC's contribution to Sir Hugh Greene as director-general of the BBC in the 1960s to be released as a wave of permissive film, all the way from All Grown Up to the Junction, ironically his most enduring legacy is something quite different, a programme which has from undermining traditional values has spent 30 years reinforcing them. The appeal of *Songs of Praise* is twofold. Most obviously it is a celebration of hymn singing, proving that it is good and not the Devil who has many of the best tunes. *Songs of Praise* is something quite different. More than that it offers reassurance that in a battered and brutal world there are still people who believe, in the face of considerable evidence to the contrary, that goodness will out. Tonight's thirtieth anniversary celebration is a live broadcast linking congregations in London, Cardiff, Glasgow and Northern Ireland. (Ceefax) (s)
- 7.15 Keeping Up Appearances. Thin Roy Clarke comically slanders the excellent Patricia Routledge as the snob Hyacinth Bucket. (Ceefax) (s)
- 7.45 Trainers: First Night. Racing soap from the *Howards' Way* stable following the fortunes of a young trainer. Starring Mark Greenstreet, David Macdonald and Susanah York (Ceefax) (s)
- 8.35 Bread. Another slice of the Carle Lane comedy about a working class Liverpool family. (Ceefax) (s)
- 9.05 News and Weather (Ceefax)



Ruling the roost: Sean Bean with Prince the Alsatian (5.20pm)

- 9.20 Screen One: Prince (1991).
- CHOICE: Were this first screenplay by the journalist Julie Burchill not based on her own family, it might be difficult to believe. It is a tale of an Alsatian dog that so takes over a household that the wife (Celia Montague) does not dare go to the loo for fear of inviting the animal's snarl. Holidays are disrupted, neighbours antagonised. Worst of all Prince's doting owner (Sean Bean), makes it very clear to his spouse and young daughter (Jackie McGuire) that the dog always comes first. Perhaps astonishingly, the wife sits back and takes it. Admittedly we are in the early 1950s, when women's lib had not quite emerged. Most of tonight's audience will probably be screaming at her to stand up for herself. Prince has amusing moments and clever lines but it is more a collection of incidents than a coherent drama. The device of using the daughter as an adult to narrate the story only underlines this. (Ceefax) (s)
- 10.35 Everyman: 40 Million Hostages. Report on human rights abuses in Burma (now Myanmar). (r). Northern Ireland: God Knows 11.05 Everyman
- 11.20 Japanese - Language and People (r) 11.50 Mahabharat (r). Northern Ireland: 11.50 Japanese Language and People 12.20am 11.00 Mahabharat 12.30am Weather

BBC 2

- 7.25 Tales of a Wise King and the Devil 7.30 Hattie Spencer (r) 7.55 Playdays (r) 8.15 Bites (r) 8.30 Barber 8.55 The Little Green Planet Show. Science series (s) (r)
- 9.10 Blood and Honey: Joshua Smashes Jericho. Stories from the Old Testament
- 9.30 Defenders of the Earth (r) 9.50 Blue Peter. Omnibus edition (r)
- 10.40 The Boy from Andromeda. Six part drama series 11.10 Science Music from Wham!, David Bowie and the Weather Girls (r) 11.50 The O-Zone Music magazine (s)
- 12.00 Film: High Noon (1952, b/w). Fred Zinnemann's famous western starring Gary Cooper as the small town marshal facing trouble from the noon train. With Grace Kelly and Thomas Mitchell.
- 1.20 Jamboree with Dick Stabile (b/w) 1.30 Film 91 With Barry Norman (r) (s)
- 2.00 Film: Cleopatra (1963). Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor in the ill-fated Hollywood epic which Elizabeth Taylor in the ill-fated production turned out to be an expensive bore. It still managed to collect Oscars for cinematography, art direction, costume design and special effects. Directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz
- 5.55 Building Sites. Artist Michael Craig-Martin considers the Lloyd's building in London (r)
- 6.05 This is Your Life (b/w). Eamonn Andrews introduces an array of theatrical stars paying tribute to Dame Sybil Thorneycroft, originally shown in 1960 (r)
- 6.35 The Money Programme: Market or Mayhem? In the first of a new series Michael Robinson reports on the collapsed economies of the former Soviet republics
- 7.15 The Birth of Europe.
- CHOICE: A seven-part series from the BBC's Natural History Unit offers a view of European history that leaves out the kings and generals and stresses the importance of geography and environment. In tonight's programme we hear how a succession of ice ages shaped the European landscape, how man arrived in Europe from Africa and how a way of life based on hunting and gathering was transformed by the invention of agriculture. The *Birth of Europe* is written and produced by Michael Andrews, a television wildlife veteran best known for *The Flight of the Condor*. There are some artificial aids. Neanderthal man turns up as a plastic dummy and actors are used to show how early cave dwellers might have lived. Otherwise the programme relies on the real thing, from flint tools to wall paintings. There is no presenter but the commentary is strong enough to stand without one



Illustrated guide to mental disorders: Dr Jonathan Miller (8.10pm)

- 8.10 Madness: To Define True Madness. (Ceefax)
- CHOICE: Faced with finding a way into a slippery concept, Dr Jonathan Miller settles on autobiography. He claims a dual qualification for the job, as the son of a psychiatrist and as a theatre director who believes that plays are an indispensable source for the mentality of other times. The "mad" scene from *Hamlet* inevitably follows. Miller offers, in effect, an illustrated lecture, delivered from what looks like a musty and abandoned film set. Offering a rich diet of ideas, this is not a series to be viewed casually. Miller's sentences can be long and complex. But the main point of tonight's offering is clear enough. Miller shows how a view of madness as possession by spirits and demons gave way during the 17th century to an explanation stressing physical causes, for which the "cure" was vomits, purges and bleedings. The madness theme continues in tonight's two feature films. (Ceefax)
- 9.10 Film: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975). Miles Forman's powerful drama starring Jack Nicholson and Louise Fletcher. Charged with assault and statutory rape Nicholson is transferred from a general work farm to the State Mental Hospital. He is the same patient who manages to bring some hope into the lives of the other inmates. Nicholson and Fletcher both won Oscars for their performances and the film also received awards for best picture, best director and its screenplay.
- 11.20 Film: Spellbound (1945, b/w). Hitchcock film some way below his best but with brilliant touches in which a psychoanalyst (Ingrid Bergman) falls for her boss (Gregory Peck) despite knowing that he is an amnesiac and possibly a killer. Ends at 1.10am

ITV

- 6.00 TV-am
- 9.25 Disney Club presented by Andrea Boardman, John Eccleston and Paul Hendy
- 10.15 Link Carers. Sally Withers reports on the role of carers. Usually portrayed as victims doing a job that nobody else wants, she asks whether they divert attention and resources from the disabled people they care for. Signed and subtitled.
- 10.30 Morning Worship from St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church, Southampton
- 11.15 The Human Factor: Between Two Worlds. The Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa once claimed that apartheid was "ordained by God" but now admits it is a sin. Hank Zeeman, a minister of the church, tries to come to terms with the change. (Oracle)
- 11.45 Walden. Brian Walden questions Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Education, on the Government's plans for public services (s)
- 12.30 News with Sue Carpenter. 12.35 LWT News and weather
- 12.40 Rugby World Cup 91: Wales v Western Samoa. Live coverage from Cardiff, introduced by Frank Bough, with commentator Bob Symonds. Gerald Davies and Gill Calvert provide the summaries.
- 2.45 The Match: Manchester United v Liverpool. Live from Old Trafford, introduced by Eton Welsby with commentary by Brian Moore and comment from Gordon Strachan (s)
- 5.00 Rugby World Cup 91: Ireland v Zimbabwe. Highlights from Dublin, introduced by Frank Bough, with commentator Alastair High and expert analysis from former Irish fly-half Nigel Carr
- 6.00 Buzzle. Darts and general knowledge quiz with Jim Bowen asking the questions. Professional player Keith Deller throws the darts for charity and Tony Green monitors the score. (s)
- 6.30 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather 6.35 LWT News and weather. 6.40 Highway. Sir Henry Scowen visits the beautiful hills and shores of Scotland's Mull of Kintyre (Oracle)
- 7.15 Beasts' About. Jeremy Beadle plays some more tricks on another collection of unsuspecting members of the public
- 7.45 The Rush Rendell Mysteries: A New Lease of Death. Episode two of a three-part story, starring George Baker. Wexford's first murder case from 30 years ago has been re-opened and Mike Bardon (Christopher Ravenscroft) begins to wonder if an innocent man (Trevor Storer) may have been sent to the gallows. With Peter Egan, Dorothy Tutin and Suzanne Hamilton (Oracle) (s)
- 8.45 London's Burning. Drama series featuring the on- and off-duty adventures of the crew of a London fire station. Starring Sean Stammers and Rupert Baker. (Oracle)
- 9.45 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather 10.00 LWT Weather
- 10.05 Hale and Pace. Gareth and Norman perform another variety selection of comedy sketches (s)



Collector of film memorabilia: director Terry Gilliam (10.35pm)

- 10.35 The South Bank Show. An insight into the private world of Terry Gilliam, the former Monty Python animator and director of the films *Brazil* and *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*. He is seen chatting with Michael Palin and making a family video in the garden of his home in Highgate, north London. He also shows his collection of scale models and memorabilia gathered from his films. Presented by Melvyn Bragg
- 11.35 Rugby World Cup 91: Wales v Western Samoa; Ireland v Zimbabwe. Frank Bough introduces highlights of matches played earlier today
- 12.00am Cue the Music. Part two of the Electric Light Orchestra in concert (r)
- 1.15 The ITV Chart Show (r) (s)
- 2.15 Film: The San Francisco Story (1952, b/w). Political drama set in lawless San Francisco in 1856. Starring Joel McCrea and Yvonne De Carlo. Directed by Philip Parsh. (s)
- 3.45 Hodson Confidential. Philip Hodson discusses impotence
- 4.15 Pick of the Week. James White introduces the best from the regions
- 4.45 The Mistle Wale. Chinese cookery series
- 5.00 Soap. Madcap American comedy about the eccentric Tate and Campbell families (r)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Trans World Sport. Sporting news and features (r) 7.00 Eureka's Castle. Cartoons for the under fives 7.30 Alfred J. Kwak. Adventures of a musical duck 8.00 Saseen Kelly. The exploits of a police dog 8.55 New Kids in the Block... On Tour. Animated adventures
- 9.25 The Sordid of Tipu Sultan. Indian drama set in the state of Mysore during the 18th Century. With English subtitles
- 10.00 Dangerous Lives: Hidden Face. In this first of two programmes examining safety at work miners discuss the dangers and hazards involved in their work in the pits
- 10.45 Dennis. Animated series about a naughty boy and his friends 11.00 Owl Tr. Wildlife series presented by Michaela Strachan. Includes a visit to the Jersey Wildlife Trust to meet a baby orangutan and the world's rarest tortoise (r). (Teletex)
- 11.30 The Lone Ranger (b/w) Vintage western starring John Hart as the masked avenger. Today he and his sidekick Tonto are threatened by outlaws 12.00 The Watsons. The final episode of the series 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. Vintage underwater adventures starring Richard Basehart
- 2.00 Jezebel. A survival documentary about Terry Reilly of Swaziland and his light to reintroduce the many wild animals that once lived in his district
- 2.30 Channel Four Racing International from Longchamp, Paris. Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the Ciga Prix du Rond-Point (2.35); the Prix Marcel Boussac (3.10); the Ciga Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp (4.25); and the Ciga Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (4.25)
- 4.55 News and weather
- 5.00 Family Pride. Drama serial about three Asian families living in Birmingham (s)
- 5.30 The Storyteller: Three Ravens. John Hurt tells the story of an evil witch who enchants a newly widowed king. Starring Miranda Richardson and Jonathan Pryce
- 6.00 Press Gang: Picking up the Pieces. More drama at the Junior Gazette (Teletex) (r)
- 6.30 The Cosby Show. Award-winning American domestic comedy series starring Bill Cosby
- 7.00 Equinox: Superpowers? A documentary examining the aims of an international group of scientists who aim to defend peace against those who believe that superpowers and UFOs. But are they right to deny the place of magic in our lives? (Teletex) (r)
- 8.00 Classic Cars: Shrink Wrapped Classics. The final programme of the series considers which of today's production line models will be the classics of tomorrow. Experts and collectors give their views
- 8.00 American Football presented by Mick Luckhurst. The main game is the Denver Broncos at the Houston Oilers. Plus the Minnesota Vikings at the Detroit Lions



Seeking adventure on the open road: Patricia Kerrigan (10.00pm)

- 10.00 Film on Four: Joyriders (1988). Drama following the journey of a young mother (Patricia Kerrigan) who walks out on her brutal husband, leaves her children at a railway station and takes to the road with a small time car thief (Andrew Connolly). Billie Whitelaw plays a country and western singer she encounters on the way. A well-crafted film which never quite takes off. Directed by Aisling Walsh, her first feature film
- 11.45 Vietnam Cinema: Little Girl from Hanoi (1973). Moving tribute to the people of Vietnam who died in President Nixon's Christmas B-52 bombing raids in 1972 and using actual scenes of the destruction. The fictional story follows a 12-year-old's search for her family in the aftermath of the carnage. Directed by Hai Ninh, now head of the Vietnam film studio. Ends at 1.10am

TV VARIATIONS

BORDER
As London except: 11.35pm Prisoner: Call Block H 12.25am Rugby World Cup 91 1.15 Quiz Night 1.45 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

CENTRAL
As London except: 12.00am Prisoner: Call Block H 1.15 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

GRANADA
As London except: 2.30-4.30 Carlton Time 5.00 Buzzle 6.30-8.30 Coronation Street 11.35 Prisoner: Call Block H 12.35 Rugby World Cup 91 1.15 Quiz Night 1.45 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

SCOTTS
As London except: 10.55am Glen M. 11.00-11.15 Link 2.45 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

STARS
As London except: 12.15am The Human Factor 12.45-1.15 Coast to Coast People

TSW
As London except: 11.35pm TSW Evening News 12.00 The Tonight Show 12.35 Rugby World Cup 91 1.15 Quiz Night 1.45 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

TVS
As London except: 12.15am The Human Factor 12.45-1.15 Coast to Coast People

TYNE TEES
As London except: 6.00pm-6.30 The Back Page 11.35 Prisoner: Call Block H 12.35 Rugby World Cup 91 1.15 Quiz Night 1.45 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

ULSTER
As London except: 11.35pm Coronation Street 12.35 Rugby World Cup 91 1.15 Quiz Night 1.45 Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.15am Pick of the Week 4.10 Pick of the Week 4.40-5.30 The TV Chart Show

SATC
Starts: 6.00am Trans World Sport 7.00

EUROSPORT
6.00am Trans World Sport 7.00

LIFESTYLE
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Officers to be disciplined for IRA breakout

A SENIOR civil servant and four prison officers are to face disciplinary action over the Brixton jail escape. A report into the July breakout by two IRA suspects also found grounds for disciplinary action against Reg Withers, prison governor at the time, but no action can be taken because he retired on Thursday.

A disciplinary charge has been laid against Brian Bubbear, who was then head of the division responsible for prison security. Mr Bubbear, who was on sick leave when Neshan Quinlivan and Pearce McAuley escaped, is on special leave. He is to take up a post in one of the finance divisions.

An investigation by an outside governor is to be carried

out into the roles of the four officers who were on duty at the time of the escape, but have not been named.

The report by Ralph Shuffrey, a former prison department official, and John Richardson, former governor of Walton jail, comes after an enquiry set up in August by Kenneth Baker, the home secretary. He said it would "point the finger and lay the blame if necessary" for lapses in security which contributed to the breakout.

Quinlivan and McAuley are still on the run after using a gun smuggled into the prison and hidden in a shoe to break free after a chapel service on July 7. After the escape, it was disclosed that the authorities had been warned of the escape plot five months earlier.

Mr Baker said he had considered resigning but decided he could not be held responsible for the operational failures. The Prison Governors' Association criticised the Shuffrey report for including the fact that there had been grounds for disciplinary action against Mr Withers.

Chris Scott, vice-chairman of the association, said: "We are sad that the department chose to indicate that if Mr Withers had still been in their employment they would have laid as yet still unspecified charges against him. That does not seem the action that a caring employer should take against a man with a long and distinguished career." Mr Withers was removed as governor after the escape.

Eddie O'Gorman, of the Brixton Prison Officers' Association, said: "When Kenneth Baker has to stand up in Parliament and give excuses he needs to have someone to lay the blame on." He said he did not know if the officers were association members, but if they were, they would be defended to the hilt.

Criticisms in the report, delivered to the Home Office a week ago, were said to range from identifying mistakes by individual officers to flawed management systems at the top of the prison department.

Zagreb raids, page 7

Serbian climbdown

Continued from page 1
pires on Monday. Dr Tudjman said his republic would "go forward with the implementation" of independence right away. He promised a national currency and customs system.

The news from the Hague and the new call-ups came as Serbian and Montenegrin claims to be assuming control within the eight-man federal presidency were condemned by the four republics that did not participate in Thursday's meeting of the country's collective leadership.

The Yugoslav president, Stipe Mesic, accused Serbia of carrying out what amounted to a coup and said that General Kadijevic had declared war on Croatia by backing Serbia and its three allies. He was calling a new presidency meeting on the Adriatic island of Brioni to annul the act. It was unlikely that Serbia and Montenegro would attend.



Taylor-made: Liz Taylor's eighth wedding dress, according to *Women's Wear Daily* in which this sketch first appeared, is of yellow satin and embroidered lace

Tabloid army at the ready

Continued from page 1
ing vows would be worth up to \$1 million (£571,000). The official wedding photographer, Herb Ritts, says that American and foreign bids will bring in more than that for Taylor's Aids charity.

NBC, the top American television network, turned down the chance to film at the wedding for a sum believed to be close to \$10 million — apparently because Taylor insisted that all advertising revenue during the broadcast be donated to Aids research. The gossip columnist, Liz Smith, an old friend of Taylor, is the only reporter officially invited and will cover the event for Fox television.

The happy couple, meanwhile, have been making final preparations. Mr Fortensky, aged 39, who met his bride-to-be at a drug-and-alcohol treatment clinic, had a stag party with dancing girls in Los Angeles. Taylor, who first married when she was 18, has been collecting gifts, apparently including some edible lingerie from Mr Fortensky's aunt.

Soviet Jews rue exodus

Continued from page 1
again in several interviews outside the consulate.

"This country is a great disappointment to us," said Dennis, aged 18, a pacifist from St Petersburg's who had hoped to study at university but now fears being drafted into the Israeli Defence Force. "Our people thought we were going to our motherland," he said. "Instead all we have encountered is aggression. Although we had anti-Semitism in Russia, the hostility we encountered here is much worse."

His views have been confirmed by reports in the Russian-language Hebrew press about recent fights among youths of Russian origin against Ethiopians and native Israelis. The newspapers have also been running advertisements from immigration agencies offering to help Soviet Jews find new homes in America, Canada, Western Europe and South Africa.

Political sketch

Happy as pigs in sheer ecstasy

NAPOLEON (Orwell relates), the top boar at Animal Farm, assuring visitors there was no longer anything threatening in his organisation, makes a keynote speech to his animals...

"He was happy, he said, that the period of misunderstanding was at an end. For a long time there had been rumours... that there was something sinister, even revolutionary, in the outlook of himself and his colleagues."

"He did not believe, he said, that any of the old suspicions still lingered, but certain changes had been made recently... hitherto the animals had had a rather foolish habit of addressing each other as 'Comrade'. This was to be suppressed."

Labour's synchronised ecstasy at Brighton this week has rivalled the Tories in its power to nauseate. I watched from the wings yesterday as the sweetly choreographed scene, its mood hovering somewhere between a Welsh rugby crowd and a Come Dancing revival, played out the final moments with Mr Kinnoch conducting.

The sight of Roy Hattersley, in open-mouthed horror as his comrades — colleagues — on the platform struck up a karaoke rendering of "We are the champions" by Queen, will never be forgotten. The conference platform makes an impressive sight on TV, but from my vantage point I could see both the visible and the concealed part of the structure. I could see the white pediments, the dolmen frothing with four dozen red roses and the raked terraces of Roman-style seating for the Great Ones.

And I could see the underbelly: the poles and trailing cables; the canvas tacked on to plywood to form the apparent marble walls; the tangle of scaffolding propping the whole thing up from behind. I could see the autocue machines, too, scrolling silently forward as the Great Ones spoke. My colleague on *The Guardian* whispered: "Why do the TV cameras never show the back?"

But that would be contrary to a video cameraman's whole instinct. Some internal voice reminds him where his loyalties lie: television is theatre and his loyalty is to artifice.

Labour conferences are now theatre and no place for reporters. As Tom Sawyer (this year's polished chairman) called each member of the shadow cabinet, one by one, to prance on to the stage for a final photocall, every critic in the house was willing him to shout "Come on down Michael Meacher!"

"Neil," called Tom, "You've been a great teacher. You've been a great guy. You've been a great advocate..." he paused, perhaps wondering whether merely to call a bloke a great teacher, advocate and guy was enough.

"And you're a great leader! And you're going to be a great prime minister!" And then, lest this, too, be thought insufficient: "And Glenys, I think you're beautiful."

We wondered which of Mr Kinnoch's family circle it now remains to compliment. Then, Napoleon, spoke. Unfortunately he had nothing to say. And, as Mr Major remarked (in his only really good joke last year) Mr Kinnoch's problem when he has nothing to say is that he has no way of knowing when he has finished.

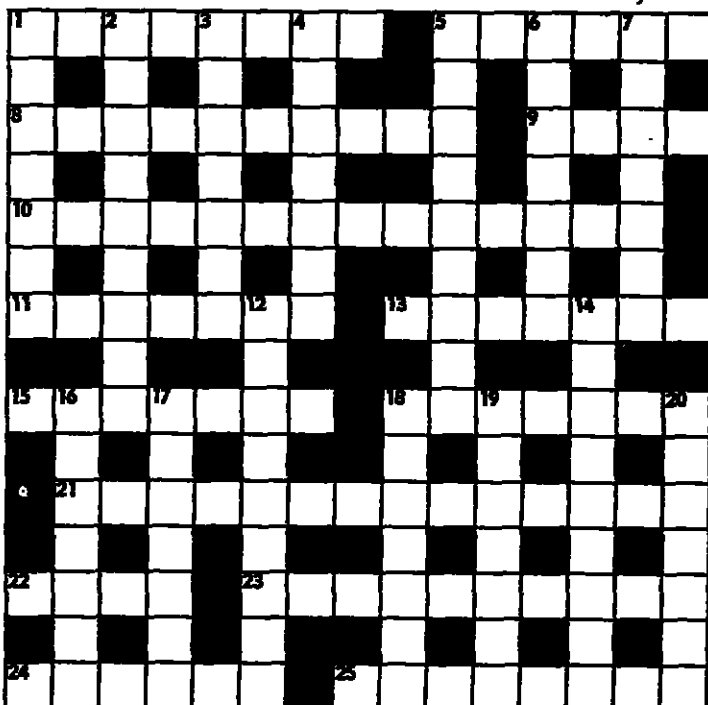
It was all about "applied patriotism". The application of patriotism in this instance was to the furtherance of Mr Kinnoch's career. As he spoke, I looked at Michael Meacher and Gerald Kaufman, at Clare Short, at Tony Blair. Then they all started to sing.

"It seemed that some strange thing was happening. No question now what had happened to the faces of the pigs. The creatures outside looked from pig to man and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which."

Clearly, Labour is ready for government.

MATTHEW PARRIS

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,729



ACROSS

- 1 Trial a head appears in is a case of some import (3-5).
- 5 Chinese system getting Maoist extremely confused (6).
- 8 Where power resides in dreadful regime? No, not (6-4).
- 9 HE keeps one in the shade (4).
- 10 The speed of inspiration brings a chance to relax (9-5).
- 11 Points to dreadful scene — no accident, this (7).
- 13 Jump on to one, taking part in game (7).
- 15 One may get fired from vehicle plant (7).
- 18 Making coffee for each ruler (7).
- 21 Order for actor — get inside, perhaps? (5-9).
- 22 One of us capturing rook with piece (4).
- 23 Studied in modern centre, free (10).
- 24 Lake is further round the bend (6).
- 25 Bishop gets supply in a casual way (8).

DOWN

- 1 Quivering sort of voice takes many in (7).
- 2 Assassin's explosion of gross rage (9).
- 3 Lace centre has success, keeping on and on (7).
- 4 Tree-worship (7).
- 5 Indication of grave situation in US city (9).
- 6 Vagabond no longer in shed (7).
- 7 Possible resort for Romans round end of June (3-4).
- 12 This fighter's no pro and not at all tough (9).
- 14 Come to Nigeria for a change (9).
- 16 European country's courts holding us (7).
- 17 Brideshead remained in ruins (7).
- 18 Not just imperfect (7).
- 19 Runs over one box, loaded to the maximum (7).
- 20 Like rare of reddish-yellow colour (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,723

SECONDHAND DROP
A O A U A E I
GOVERNORIVE SPEC
K E R S I A L K
P O S T A G E S T A M P
B P W A G N O
P A R A M O U N T O T I C
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Solution to Puzzle No 18,728

T O P H O L E A C H A F E S
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PARKER A price of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

By Philip Howard

- McKENZIE**
a. Waterproof tweed knickerbockers
b. To resist
c. An unqualified legal helper
- POMACE**
a. The Ace of Diamonds
b. Crushed apples for cider
c. An abrasive cleaner stone
- NARGHILE**
a. A water pipe
b. The water buffalo
c. A Nilotic water lily
- UNDERN**
a. Nause in the morning
b. A wave across a bigger wave
c. To disrobe

Answers on page 17

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE	731
C London (within N & S Circs)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

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Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Concise Crossword, page 17

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: M Wellington, The Square, Middleton Hall, Wooler, Northumberland; I A S Wedderburn, Dunlichy Lodge, Farr, Inverness; L Clodi, Hartington Street, Carlisle; J Wilmore, Meadowfield, Alskew, Bedale, N Yorks; E Constable, Westbury Road, Edington, Westbury, Wilt.

Scotland, Northern Ireland, northwest England and north Wales will be bright and sunny but there might be some heavy showers. A band of cloud and rain stretching from northeast to southwest England will move south-eastwards during the day, followed by brighter, showery weather. Most parts will be windy, and it will be rather cold. Outlook: rain at times over Scotland and Northern Ireland; mostly dry elsewhere.

MIDDAY: 1st runner, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st																																
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SATURDAY OCTOBER 5, 1991

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WEEKEND MONEY

Guinness trial

Guinness was the target of a campaign of sabotage during its battle to take over Distillers. Southwark Crown Court has been told. Oliver Roux, former finance director at Guinness, said the company got its supporters to buy shares to stabilise their market value after attempts by Argyll, a rival bidder, to undermine their price. He was speaking at the trial of Roger Seelig and Lord Spens, former merchant bankers, who are accused of taking part in an alleged share support operation. Page 23



Keith Vaz, the MP, has asked the government to help depositors of BCCI, the collapsed bank. After the failure of reconstruction talks, European banks are being offered BCCI's British branches and loan book. Page 23

Equal terms

For the first time in a government shares sale, private investors will be able to compete on equal terms with institutions in the BT sell-off. Page 25

Mortgage aid

Elderly people who were advised to mortgage their homes to invest in bonds and now face financial difficulties, are being offered help. Page 28

Bonuses cut

Actuaries from 20 life companies are considering cutting the bonuses on with-profit funds, despite fears over competitiveness. Page 27

Letters

Page 30



Liberty stake

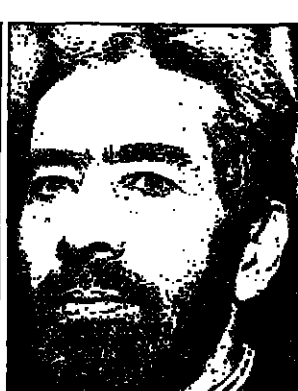
Brian Myerson, the South African financier, has bought 14.6 per cent of the voting shares of Liberty & Co, which last month announced a fall in profits. Page 23

Racal attacks

Racal Electronics has attacked the accounting policies of Williams Holdings, which has made a £719 million hostile takeover bid for the firm. Pages 23, 24

Halstead up

James Halstead Group reports pre-tax profits of £7.65 million for the year to end-June, compared with £7.44 million. Page 24



Gerald Bradley and his wife, Pat, were the victims of a fraudster who copied the details of their credit card magnet strip from a carbon of a receipt. Customers are now being warned to ensure carbons are destroyed. Page 27

Lautro enquiry

Lautro is investigating the way in which with-profits insurance bonds are being sold, after concern that some sales information may be misleading. Page 27

Photo cards

Customers' photographs are being printed on bank cards issued by The Royal Bank of Scotland as part of an experiment designed to combat fraud. Page 28

BES success

Business expansion schemes have attracted up to £55 million of investment in the six months since the start of this tax year. Page 30

Loans bar

Borrowers with a record of arrears or a county court judgment against them may not be able to take advantage of cheaper loans currently on offer. Riskier loans require extra capital. Page 29

WEEK ENDING
Matthew Bond

Arnie's phoney war

Senior executives at GEC are already arguing over what they should call the new Rover they hope to unveil at the 1993 Motor Show. Top of the shortlist, apparently, is the Melsun Cherry. GEC's marketing gurus believe it has a certain ring to it.

But then the main events (or perhaps non-events) of the week had a certain ring to them. It is, after all, less than two years since GEC spent 11 anxious days looking down the barrel of a Smith & Melsun brandished by Sir John Cuckney, then the outgoing chairman of Westland. The sigh of corporate relief that went up after Sir John was finally forced to admit that somewhere along the line he had mislaid his ammunition was big enough to be picked up by Marconi.

Despite living to fight another day, the experience clearly left its mark on Lord Weinstock, the man whose immovability as GEC's managing director is matched only by that of the GEC share price. Arnie withdrew to his cash-



mountain top retreat and mused on the lessons to be learned.

The period of contemplation was clearly a success, but the manner in which Sir John's strategy would appear to be being revisited by Lord Weinstock, however, has raised more than a few eyebrows. For just as John Wakeham decided that the news that there would be no November general election hardly merited a full press conference, so the £3 billion worth of predatory ambition that GEC apparently harbours towards British Aerospace was trickled, none too gently, into the market. But if there is one thing that the Stock Exchange does not like it is things that trickle into the market.

A request for clarification met with only partial success. Sir Graham Day at British Aerospace, perhaps mindful of the number of enemies that BAE's £432 million rights issue had already won the company, was eager to set the regulatory mind at rest. BAE was not talking to anyone, he said complacently. Lord Weinstock, who does not have a rights issue requiring shareholder approval on Monday, said nothing. Blanks or bullets? Only time will tell.

Shareholders due to attend BAE's extraordinary meeting on Monday will doubtless be giving the rights issue document close scrutiny this weekend, particularly if they have the double misfortune of owning shares in Mountleigh, the accident prone property group. For at Mountleigh's annual meeting this week, a number of shareholders were seen searching their rights issue document in vain for the clause that said that less than six weeks after the £96 million rights issue had been completed it was the intention of the company's chairman, chief executive and managing directors to resign.

With Sir Roland Smith already gone, BAE's remaining executives must be hoping the growing resemblance between the two companies stops there. But some good will come out of the Mountleigh affair. With Nelson Peltz, Peter May and Marc Leland signalling their intention to remain on the board in a non-executive capacity, Mountleigh's board now boasts no less than eight non-executive directors out of a total of 13. Corporate governance is clearly alive and well. Isn't it good to know that there are so many people safeguarding shareholders' interests?

BUSINESS PROFILE: David James

Sickly child to company doctor

Despite being 'just about' a millionaire, the saviour of several firms still feels insecure, Carol Leonard discovers

David James, the doyen of company doctors, the Red Adair of the corporate world, has no professional qualifications, charges £1,000 a day for his services and his 70 or so patients so far, have all survived.

Despite his extraordinary track record, the past six weeks have, he says, been the most emotionally trying of his career. In eight days, he has completed his refinancing plans for Davies & Newman, the Dan-Air airline group, with a £53 million convertible preference share placing, posted letters to Eagle Trust shareholders explaining that a similar financial reconstruction has been agreed for them; and received confirmation that his nomination papers, as one of ten candidates for two vacant seats on the Lloyd's of London council, have been accepted.

As soon as one patient nears recovery (Dan-Air), Mr James likes to have another already under strict medical supervision (Eagle Trust) and to have his eyes on a third, still sickly corporate structure (Lloyd's).

Davies & Newman lost £38 million last year. Mr James became chairman and chief executive in November. The company is forecast to lose £35 million this year, after haemorrhaging almost £1 million a day during the Gulf war, but Mr James, aged 55, is now projecting a profit of £19 million by the end of 1992. He has also saved an estimated 8,500 jobs in the process.

Eagle Trust collapsed in 1989 with £74 million missing. One of its subsidiaries was then found to be involved in the Iraqi supertanker affair. Mr James became chairman and chief executive in September that year. The company now has writs outstanding against Swiss Bank Corporation, owner of Savory Mills, Eagle's former stockbroker, for £13.5 million, and against Peat Marwick, the accountant, for about £50 million. Mr James says: "I will stay on with Davies & Newman at least until the AGM next year, in May or June."

Eagle Trust, where Lloyds Bank, Standard Chartered and National Westminster have just agreed to a debt-for-equity refinancing package of up to £20 million, will take a little longer. "I will remain involved with Eagle Trust for a number of years, because of the very long legal programme, but my workload and fee income have already been substantially reduced and will continue to reduce."

As for Lloyd's, Mr James has been a name for eight years, is currently writing up to £850,000 of business a year and wants a seat on the council "because I am

dissatisfied with much about Lloyd's but I don't like quitting". He expresses concern about the continued existence of loopholes that might still permit criminal activity, and the "dreadful PR" which, he says, "made Lloyd's names look ridiculous in the eyes of the public - you would think we were all now living in cardboard boxes in the Strand".

Far from living in a cardboard box, Mr James spends at least one night a week with his mother, Aislin, aged 79, at her home in Lee, south London, and the rest of the time commutes from his penthouse flat in Hove, East Sussex. He has never married although he was once engaged and has "come close" on two other occasions. He says: "I have a long-standing lady friend, but I don't think either she or I would regard each other as exclusive. The old problems of my life still make an enduring relationship almost impossible - from time to

'He can be very single minded, to the exclusion of everything else, and I think that is perhaps why he is still a bachelor'

time I will go off the air for four or six weeks while I get totally committed to a job."

Mr James insists he is not lonely, that he has other interests, such as opera twice a week - he is a Wagner fan; cricket - "when I retire I would love to spend the winters following the England team"; and racing - "I have my diary booked out for Ascot and Goodwood. I love the horses and the science of the form book." Even they are dropped, however, if his work demands.

Tony Garrett, a chartered secretary, who has worked with Mr James on several projects and is cited by Mr James as his best friend, much to Mr Garrett's surprise, admits that he finds this single-minded commitment to work difficult to cope with.

Mr Garrett says: "He can be very single minded, to the exclusion of everything else, and I think that is perhaps why he is still a bachelor. I have a great deal of admiration for David but it is mixed with sympathy because although he has been so successful in one area of his life, he has

missed so much. He has no domesticity."

Although Mr James averts his eyes when he recalls his broken engagement - "Of course I cared, I cared a hell of a lot" - and admits that if he had his time over again, there are some things he would do differently, he does not seek sympathy. He is happy with his lot. As an only child, he has, after all, never known anything else. He enjoys socialising, relishes public speaking, is warm, kind and good humoured, but he is, at heart, a loner.

Even at school in Blackheath, southeast London, the only sports he won medals in were long jump and high jump. "Things I did on my own, that were not done with others. I could regularly win." He has never been a team player. He cannot even recall having any childhood friends. Afflicted by chronic asthma in his early years, later diagnosed as an allergy to cat fur, Mr James only learned to read when he was ten and was, by then, already labelled the school-room idiot and mercilessly teased. "I was a puny little thing, stuck in the back row, with my eyes streaming, and I hated it."

He sought refuge in religion, set his heart on a career in the church, and gained a Church of England place at Oxford. At 18, a crisis of conscience forced him to admit that he was no longer a believer. He says: "I'm now an anti-clerical, anti-institutionalised religion because I believe it represents a limitation of the human spirit." He was morally obliged to decline the Oxford course. One of his biggest regrets is that he did not go to university. He says it has left him with a feeling of inferiority, of "always coming from behind". Each time he completes the rescue of a company, and despite a steady stream of offers, he feels as if he will never be offered anything else. His deep-seated financial insecurity bubbles to the surface.

That insecurity stems from his childhood, from war-time memories of evacuation, of returning to Blackheath with no furniture because the depository had been burned - "We slept on camp beds under newspapers" - and of his mother having less than a pound in her pocket to last until payday. His father, an awesome figure who had begun life as a kitchen boy at a night club and became catering director of Watney, was unemployed for six months after the war.

Even though he admits to being "just about" a millionaire, Mr James claims he is "not yet rich", and is painfully careful with his money. "I computerise my own personal budget, as detailed as for any of my companies. I don't regard myself as secure. I obses-



Musically minded: David James with a bust of Sir Thomas Beecham at the Royal Opera House

sively put money into my pension scheme so that I have some insurance for the future." He even says that one of the reasons he never married was because he never felt he had sufficient money to take care of a mortgage and school fees. When he could afford it - by his mid-forties - he was, he says, too old.

Surprisingly, however, Mr James is not motivated by money alone. He has missed out on a fortune by refusing, on a point of principle, to take equity stakes in the companies he salvages.

So what is it that still drives him? "I have an eternal need to test myself. It is part of my attempt to get out of that back row of the classroom." He now wants to tackle something "of national consequence", and suggests either The Royal Opera or the racing industry. He admits that his ambitions, hand in hand with his fragile confidence, have grown over the years and that he now wants to leave his mark. Mr James realises, however, that in so doing, his unbeaten track record is exposed. "Yes, there is a degree of Russian roulette," he says. "You can draw an analogy with the high jump I used to do at school - ultimately the winner will fall. You always hit the bar in the end."

Giving credit for a good education

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

WHAT is the difference between a student with an overdraft and a graduate with an overdraft? The answer is creditworthiness. Thousands of graduates are being wooed by the Bank of Scotland and offered college or university credit cards to help fund activities at their Alma Mater. Students are excluded from the scheme.

"Alumni" cards were launched by the Bank of Scotland a year ago and are now gaining in popularity, with 36 educational institutions having signed up. They range from Bolton Institute of Higher Education to Strathclyde University. Aberdeen Uni-

versity cards were the first to be issued and this week Edinburgh University graduates were invited to apply.

In coming months, graduates of the London School of Economics, Brunel University and former pupils of King's School, Canterbury, will be among those mailed.

The affinity cards work like all others in that the organisation benefiting signs up with a bank and supplies it with a list of members - in this case, former students.

When applications are accepted, the bank pays the college an agreed sum, and each time the cardholder uses the card a small amount is paid to the college. Typically, affinity cards pay £5



for each new customer and 25p per £100 spent. With the alumni cards, different rates have been negotiated. Unlike the bank's Classic Visa card, there is no annual fee. The interest rate is

slightly higher, though, at 28.6 per cent APR compared with 28.4 per cent for the Classic Visa card.

The bank said alumni applicants were assessed under the normal credit-scoring procedure, although some factors were regarded as positive that might not be for a standard card. The bank expected new graduates to have moved recently and not to have much service with their employers. Usually, card applicants would score less favourably if they seemed transitory.

This would explain how one graduate turned down by a larger bank for a standard credit card was readily accepted as a customer by Bank of Scotland for a university credit card.

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Williams accounts attacked by Rascal

RACAL Electronics has attacked the accounting policies of Williams Holdings in its first defence document against the £719 million hostile takeover offer from Nigel Rudd's and Brian McGowan's industrial conglomerate.

The document argues that Williams' all-paper offer is "of uncertain value" because of the company's accounting treatment. Three aspects of Williams' accounts come under attack: the level of disclosure on acquisition accounting, the "unusual" inclusion of the pension fund surplus as an asset on the balance sheet, and the "non-standard" treatment of exceptional items.

Rascal shareholders are urged to reject the "inadequate, uncertain, opportunistic and inadequate" offer. The defence document, which does not include a profit forecast, concentrates on Racal's track record since 1966 when Sir Ernest Harrison became chairman and chief executive. Since then, according to Racal, the company "has shown the highest capital growth of any UK electronics sector stock which investors could have held throughout the last 25 years".

It also points to the development of Racal Vodafone, fully demerged from its former parent in September and now valued at £3.8 billion. Since April 27, 1988, the day before the announcement of the initial partial demerger of Racal Vodafone, Racal shareholders have seen the value of their holdings increase by 103 per cent, compared with a 44 per cent increase in the FT-SE 100 index and a 23 per cent advance in Williams' share price.

The document also said that the terms offered by Williams to Yale and Valor shareholders earlier this year proved that the offer undervalued Racal. The £417 million paid for Yale and Valor represented 107 per cent of that company's turnover and a 202 per cent premium to net assets. By contrast, the defence document says, the offer for Racal represents only 46 per cent of its turnover and a 12 per cent premium to net assets.

Rascal shares rose 1½p to 59½p, while Williams Holdings' shares fell 2p to 340p.

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The second Guinness trial

Argyll 'campaign of sabotage' alleged by Roux

By OUR CITY STAFF



Olivier Roux: 'corrective'

GUINNESS was the victim of an "amazing campaign" of sabotage during its takeover battle for Distillers, a court was told yesterday.

Argyll, the Scottish supermarket group and Guinness's rival in the takeover battle, tried to distort the Guinness share price by attacks in the market, in the courts, on the political front and in the press, Olivier Roux, the former Guinness finance director, told Southwark Crown Court.

He was speaking in response to a request from Roger Seelig, a former merchant banker, who denies fraud and false accounting charges and is defending himself, to paint an accurate picture of Argyll's anti-Guinness tactics.

Mr Roux agreed when he suggested there was no investigation of Argyll as there was into Guinness.

Mr Roux said that, as a result of Argyll's tactics, Guinness persuaded its supporters to buy its shares as a "corrective" to stabilise their market value—a move he regarded as "completely honest".

Mr Seelig and Lord Spens, a former merchant banker, are accused of taking part in an alleged multimillion pound share-support operation involving undisclosed indemnity payments to help Guinness win its £2.7 billion bid for Distillers in the spring of 1986.

Mr Seelig, a former corporate finance director at Morgan Grenfell, denies two charges of false accounting under the 1968 Theft Act and one under

the 1958 Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act, alleging that he fraudulently attempted to induce the disposal and acquisition of securities.

Lord Spens, the former managing director of Henry Ansbacher and Company, also denies a charge of false accounting. Both deny a joint charge alleging conspiracy to contravene the provisions of the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act.

Mr Roux, a prosecution witness, agreed with Mr Seelig that, from the beginning of the bid, Guinness's advisers gave a warning that Argyll and its followers might make counter-attacks and try to "sabotage" Guinness's share price.

Aggressive attacks soon materialised in an "amazing campaign" in every possible direction, he said.

They involved Guinness shareholders friendly to Argyll selling enormous holdings through different stockbrokers

to cause the brewer's share price the maximum amount of damage. Another tactic was offering shares for sale after the market closed.

Argyll supporters also sold Guinness shares "short"—selling stock they did not have at the time.

Mr Roux said Argyll attacked Guinness in the press, trying to give the impression that the takeover would harm the company's profits and that it only launched a counterbid to protect its position in Bell's, an earlier acquisition.

There was also a political campaign that involved making approaches to all those who would be consulted by the Office of Fair Trading in determining whether to refer Guinness's bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. These included the Scottish Office, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and other government departments.

On the legal front, Argyll issued a writ against the Distillers and Guinness merger agreement and sought a judicial review on how Guinness's first offer for the company could lapse so a second one could be made.

Mr Roux said Argyll also attacked Guinness in its bid presentations to institutions.

But Guinness's presentations never mentioned Argyll, concentrating instead on the benefits a merger would bring to the shareholders and the country.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.



Flagship store: shoppers queue at Liberty's main branch in Regent Street, London

South African buys 14.6% in Liberty

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

BRIAN Myerson, the South African financier, has bought 14.6 per cent of the voting shares of Liberty & Co, the retailer whose principal store is in Regent Street, London.

Mr Myerson bought the shares for £50p each from the Merchant Navy Officers Pension Fund, via his company Concerto Capital Corporation. James Capel carried out the transaction. The purchase takes Mr Myerson's holding in the ordinary shares of Liberty to 15.08 per cent. He also holds an undisclosed number of the non-voting shares.

Mr Myerson said it would be premature to say what his intentions were towards Liberty, which he considers to be one of the last strong independent retail brand names. He said he would not be buying any more Liberty shares in the immediate future. Last year, he attempted to franchise the non-voting shares of Aquascutum, which led to the sale of the business to Re-

nowned, of Japan. While Mr Myerson has not yet spoken to the management of Liberty, he is likely to seek a meeting soon. "I am now the second largest shareholder after the family," he said, adding that it was too early to say whether or not he would seek board representation.

Harry Weblin, the chairman of Liberty, expressed disappointment that Merchant Navy had sold the shares to Mr Myerson, but said he could understand it.

More than half the voting shares, which make up 77 per cent of the share capital of the group, are in the hands of relatives of the founding family. Mr Weblin said he was confident that these shares would stay within the family.

Liberty last month announced pre-tax profits of £1.7 million for the six months to August 3, a 36.3 per cent fall. Mr Weblin said trading conditions had been the worst for a decade.

Coutts to cut 170 more jobs

COUTTS, the Queen's bank, has told its staff of 2,100 that 170 of them will be made redundant by Christmas. The message comes after the failure of a voluntary redundancy programme. This attracted only 65 applicants, well short of the 250 job cuts that the bank hopes to make as part of a £12 million cost-cutting programme.

The bank, a subsidiary of National Westminster, said that it still hoped to redeploy as many staff as possible and denied reports that it was planning to close its Campbell's Office in the Strand.

The job cuts are part of a wider reorganisation at Coutts, which has taken over NatWest's private banking businesses worldwide.

Other banks have been forced to introduce or expand compulsory redundancies in the past year as the recession has reduced the numbers leaving due to natural wastage.

Lamont hails year in ERM a success

By COLIN NARBROUGH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

AMID speculation about an imminent move by Britain to the narrow bands of the European exchange-rate mechanism, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, has hailed the first year of ERM membership as a success.

But his anniversary statement gave no guidance as to when the government might move the pound from the wide 6 per cent bands to the 2.25 per cent bands. Predictions that Mr Lamont was ready to tighten the bands immediately, even yesterday, had circulated the market from Thursday afternoon.

The Conservative party conference at Blackpool next week has been tipped by foreign exchange dealers as a platform from which a move to the narrow bands could be announced, possibly to coincide with another half-point cut in interest rates when the inflation figures are published on Friday. But the pound has been relatively weak, suggesting Mr Lamont has little scope for an early ERM change. At the Bank of England close yesterday, sterling stood at DM2.9162, well below its central rate of DM2.95.

Julian Calow, economist at Chase Investment Bank, considered sterling weakness a restraint, but said no Treasury minister had publicly made a commitment to pressuring sterling's central rate. This suggested a strong likelihood of a devaluation from DM2.95 to between DM2.85 and DM2.90 when the bands are narrowed.

Mr Lamont said the ERM had provided an "invaluable framework" in the fight against inflation. But he sought to dampen hopes of further interest rate cuts, saying that the government's commitment to maintain sterling's ERM parity meant that British interest rates were heavily influenced by those of our European partners.

He said the competitiveness of British exporters, contrary to City expectations, had been unimpaired by ERM membership: exports to the Community were up 12 per cent in the three months to August compared with last year.

The government's latest cyclical indicators, which seek to identify turning points in economic activity, continue to show an economy on the road to recovery, but at a very modest pace, he said. City analysts, however, believe the figures reflect the end of a brief upturn in confidence earlier this year, not a sustained recovery.

STV shares up as profits dive

SCOTTISH Television, whose shares have more than doubled in the past 12 months, announced pre-tax profits for the six months to end-June of £1.15 million, a fall of 67 per cent on last time.

But the drop in earnings failed to dent the share price, which rose 2p to 572p. STV is widely believed to have bid under £1 million, one of the

lowest bids, to retain its television franchise, and its bid is unopposed. The group said the estimated costs of its application were £4 million, which will be taken as an extraordinary item in the second half.

Pre-tax profits in the first half fell on the back of a drop in revenue and an increase in exceptional costs. Sales of

advertising fell from £43.7 million to £40 million and programme sales fell from £8.3 million to £7.73 million. Total turnover fell from £52.3 million to £48 million.

The exceptional costs, for severance pay, rose from £590,000 to £2.08 million. Earnings per share fell from 9.73p to 3.27p and the interim dividend is 2.875p (5.75p).

Buyers sought for BCCI operations

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

CONTINENTAL banks are being offered the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International's British branches and loan book after reconstruction talks failed this week. Advisers to the Abu Dhabi government, BCCI's main shareholder, and Touche Ross, the provisional liquidator, are contacting leading continental banks about buying BCCI's operations.

They are hoping to sell a package of up to six branches and a £300 million loan book. The money raised would help to compensate the bank's depositors. The advisers hope a foreign bank will buy the operations to establish or expand a branch network in Britain.

If the attempt fails, Touche Ross will be forced to sell the pieces at heavily reduced prices. The proposed sale is part of the new policy of the Abu Dhabi government to realise BCCI's assets after its decision to make all but 185 of the bank's British staff redundant last week.

Keith Vaz, the Labour MP for Leicester East, met Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, and John Maples, the economic secretary to the Treasury, yesterday to request government help for BCCI depositors. Mr Vaz said he was disappointed by the meeting, even though Mr Maples did



'Tea and sympathy but not much else': Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East

not rule out government compensation if the official enquiry into the BCCI closure revealed that the Bank of England was negligent in its handling of the case.

"Mr Maples gave us tea and sympathy but not much else. He expressed his disappointment that the restructuring process had not succeeded."

The Abu Dhabi government

decided to abandon attempts to rebuild BCCI after a meeting last weekend in the Gulf.

The Abu Dhabi authorities are also said to have been angered by the performance of Touche Ross. Sources close to BCCI said many of its loans did not appear to have been serviced since the bank was closed by international regulators on July 5. They believed

this was further depleting the bank's remaining assets. Touche Ross said it could not comment on the reports.

Since BCCI's closure, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan has been paying BCCI's British staff £600,000 a week. He will pay another £3 million in redundancy and has appointed an outplacement agency to help the staff find new jobs.

Brown & Tawse chief goes

By OUR CITY STAFF

KEITH Rae, chief executive of Brown & Tawse, the steel and pipeline distributor, has resigned with immediate effect after dissatisfaction in the City with the group's performance. Mr Rae, who has not taken up a post with another company, will be paid compensation that has still to be agreed.

Gilbert Black, chairman, will take over as chief executive until a replacement can be found. Brown & Tawse made a pre-tax loss of £1.2 million in the year to end-March compared with profits of £5 million. The dividend was cut from 9.5p to 5.7p.

Philip Ashforth, finance director, said the board had been united and Mr Rae's resignation had been amicable. He said: "The board has been made conscious that the outside business world has not been happy with the group's performance recently." The shares were unchanged at 83p.

Caledonian clan gathers to fight Price war

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE chief of the clan Forsyth in Scotland has launched a £6 million legal suit against Price Waterhouse, the accountant, for alleged breach of contract and negligence after the collapse of his company, Caledonian Produce.

Alistair Forsyth, of that ilk, Caledonian's chairman, and three of his fellow shareholders have served a writ on the firm, which first advised the company on a reconstruction and was then appointed as its joint receiver. Mr Forsyth, who lives in Ethic Castle near Arbroath, suffered heavy losses in the collapse of Caledonian, in which he owned a 10 per cent stake.

The writ alleges that Price

Waterhouse undervalued Caledonian's assets by £3 million, and that the firm told the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Caledonian's banker, that its loans were not supported by group assets. The dispute stems from 1986, when Caledonian decided to reorganise to repay bank debts. The company hired Price Waterhouse to report on the company's value and its trading.

At its height, Caledonian had a spread of businesses across Scotland. These included Melrose, the Edinburgh tea distributor, which has held a royal warrant since last century. There were also Clark Constable, a printing firm of which Sir Walter Scott was a founder shareholder, and the Farmers' Supply Association, an agricultural distributor.

The group had an annual turnover

of £56 million, and reported profits of £700,000 in 1984, the last year that audited accounts were published. Price Waterhouse's investigations, however, suggested that Caledonian's assets were far less than it had originally believed. Mr Forsyth said that Price Waterhouse took this information to the Hongkong Bank, which led eventually to the receivership.

During the liquidation, Price Waterhouse sold Melrose to Premier Brands, now part of Hillsdown, and Farmers' Supply was the subject of a management buyout.

The courts later appointed Grant Thornton as liquidator. The latter then sold the remaining assets and produced a surplus over the bank debts. Other parts of Caledonian were simply wound up. These included

Hargreaves Rice and Quinn, a Lloyd's insurance broker in London, which is now running off its business.

The case has already made Scottish legal history, since the Court of Session gave the four shareholders permission to sue Price Waterhouse, even after Grant Thornton, Caledonian's liquidator and effective controller, refused.

Mr Forsyth said that if the case succeeds, the money will be used to repay Caledonian's unsecured creditors, including shareholders and suppliers, who have suffered in the collapse.

Price Waterhouse has said that the Caledonian case is entirely without merit and has pledged a vigorous defence. The accountancy firm has already applied for more time to prepare its argument.

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MORGAN GRENFELL TRUST MANAGERS

Racal awaits the real Williams bid

HOSTILE takeovers may be back but they are a mere shadow of their former selves as seen during the golden age of the Eighties. Witness the Williams Holdings bid for Racial Electronics. The bidder's opening shot was curiously low key and the first defence document from Racial, posted yesterday, maintains the impression of a phoney war. Where, for example, are the bitter personal attacks on the aggressor's management, the critical analysis of the bidder's record?

The best that Rascal, led by Sir Ernest Harrison, comes up with is a few throwaway lines on Williams's accounting policies and a reference to the "opportunistic and inadequate" nature of the bid.

But these are still early days and the feeling in the City is that both sides are keeping their powder dry for later in the campaign. Racial believes it has little to fear from the bidder's opening shot and has not, for example, gone to the trouble of producing a profit forecast. "I don't know what I'll do," says Williams's next move, after the bid is made.

Williams's three-for-twenty all-share offer values Racial shares at 51p each.

Healthy Halstead

JAMES Halstead Group is down on the floor – and loving it. Its floor-covering products, accounting for two-thirds of turnover and even more of earnings, remain in

demand, and group profits in the year to end-June again moved ahead, to £7.65 million (£7.44 million).

Conway, Halstead's camping products division, also did well and, together with floors, helped to offset modest losses from Belfast International, the rainwear business, and weaker profits from Driza-Bone in Australia.

The group ended the year with £2 million of net cash. A final dividend of 7p (6.5p) makes 11.25p a share

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Shares drift lower after US rate cut fails to materialise

THE absence of an expected cut in the American prime rate left share prices with sinking feeling. Yesterday had started promisingly. The speculators had been bracing themselves for a long-awaited mega-bid while everybody else had been hoping that a move by the Federal Reserve in America would be the catalyst for a further softening in domestic bank base rates. In the event, everybody was disappointed.

The equity market never really got into its stride after the overnight setback on Wall Street. Investors remained on the sidelines and the FT-SE 100 index spent a nervous day, moving within narrow limits. It managed to reduce a fall of nearly 11 points to finish only 1.0 down at 2,624.6. The FT index of 30 shares shed 0.5 at 2,018.7, with turnover reaching 457 million shares. Government securities suffered losses stretching to 5% at the interest rates as hopes of a cut soon in longer rates receded after the latest economic data from America.

British Aerospace was a dull market, losing 8p at 415p before Monday's extraordinary meeting to approve the £432 million rights issue. The break-up bid that some observers had been forecasting now seems remote. Many analysts have always regarded it as a non-starter for GEC, which seems to want to guarantee BAE's future, hardened 10p to 198p.

Pilkington, Britain's biggest glassmaker, rallied 5p to 149p. Pilkington was the subject of a pro-fits downgrade by Nomura, the Japanese securities house, this week. Yesterday, its advisers were rushing to its aid. Cazenove, one of the company's joint brokers, has been telling its clients that the shares have been oversold, while Charterhouse Tilney, the other broker, has started arranging meetings with selected fund managers. Hoare

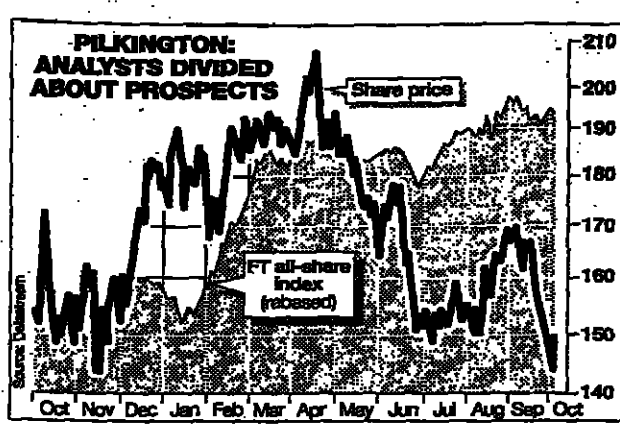
Ratners Group, the jeweller, managed to halt this week's sharp fall in the share price by rallying 7p to 90p. On Wednesday, Moody's decided to downgrade the group's credit rating, which means it could be paying more for its borrowings. Analysts in the City immediately cut their pre-tax profit forecasts for the current year and there is now talk of a rights issue at some stage.

There was heavy turnover in Saatchi & Saatchi, the troubled advertising agency, with the price down 4p at 15p on reports of big selling from America. Dealers said that several lines of stock had gone through the market, including a parcel of 2 million shares.

Ranks **Hoivis McDougall** slipped 5p to 268p as Hoare Govett, the broker, placed a line of 2.5 million shares in the market on behalf of an institutional client. There is talk that Hoare will soon publish a review of the food manufac-

Racal Electronics firmed 1½p to 59½p after rejecting the £703 million offer from Williams Holdings as "opportunistic and inadequate". The speculators are holding on to their shares and pinning their hopes on a possible counterbid. Williams Holdings eased 2p to 340p.

MICHAEL CLARK

[illegible]

WORLD MARKETS

Dow slips in early dealings

New York — Shares reversed a firm opening to suffer a modest loss in early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 4 points to 2,980.79.

closed barely higher in light trading, but performed better than expected after overnight falls in New York and London. A weaker Australian dollar and continued hopes of an easing in monetary policy were cited by brokers as reasons for the market holding steady.

The all-ordinaries index closed at 1,587.1, up 2.1 points. Another broker said the market drifted higher on minor buying orders. The all-industrials index again led the way, rising 7.9 points to 2,455.5. The all-resources eased back 2.3 to 922.3.

The News Corporation was 5 cents higher at Aus\$11.50. On Thursday, the Capital Group of America said it had acquired more than 9 per cent of News Corp.

□ Tokyo — Shares ended easier but off their lows. The Nikkei index was down 114.54 points, or 0.46 per cent, to 24,596.90. The Nikkei has gained 627.43 points, or 2.62 per cent, on the week.

□ Hong Kong — Prices ended lower on profit-taking and after several blue chips went ex-dividend. The Hang Seng index eased 25.72 points to 1,067.69. (Reuters)



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WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY OCTOBER 5 1991

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Innocent will pick up Fimbra pieces

The news that the future of the Financial Intermediaries Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) is under review comes as no surprise to many investors and brokers. Nothing seems to have gone right for the regulator. It has barely survived a series of investment scandals from members supposedly vetted by the association, and has had to be bailed out twice by the companies of which it is supposed to be independent.

Now, investors face years of wrangling and uncertainty while the Securities and Investments Board decides who should authorise and regulate independent financial advisers. The fear must be that any change will allow those who have persisted to flout the rules to get away with it for ever longer.

It is already difficult enough for investors to have complaints dealt with. They are passed around like parcels from one regulator to another with all of them denying responsibility. A

further blurring of the system will not help.

Some brokers are questioning whether there will be an independent financial adviser sector left to regulate by the time the discussions have ended. The abandonment of the sector by National Westminster Bank is likely to encourage other waverers to sign up with insurance companies.

The members of Fimbra are concerned about the cost of providing protection for investors. Too many Fimbra members have disappeared after setting up private investment schemes offering wonderful returns.

Other, innocent members are left to pick up the pieces. Their bill for the compensation scheme has risen. Those running solid, honest businesses have begun to feel that Fimbra membership is not only costly but also a liability. The question of who is going to



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

pay to protect the public in the future is exercising more than a few minds.

Fimbra has tested the Financial Services Act in the High Court and now accepts that investments made since December 1986 are covered by the scheme. Fimbra had wanted to wriggle out of any responsibility for clients up until August 27, 1988.

Sir Kenneth Clucas, appointed to consider a replacement for Fimbra, has a thankless task in trying to provide an answer to how a disparate group of competing brokers can best be

organised. They range from large national networks to tiny local firms.

They have one thing in common. They want the regulatory system sorted out so they can get on with their business rather than lurching from problem to problem in the knowledge that the honest, careful ones are likely to pay repeatedly for the sins of others who appear to have been able to continue in their old ways regardless of the new supposedly tougher regime.

Those who are hoping the mess will be sorted out once and for all

may give a wry glance at the curriculum vitae of Sir Kenneth and notice that he has been an independent member of the Fimbra council since 1986.

Bond enquiry

No one can ever know what goes on in sitting rooms when salesmen scent a sale. They will say anything to investors to persuade them to sign on the dotted line for an insurance policy.

Some insurance salesmen have been having a field day in the last few months as they sold with-profits bonds on the strength of much higher returns than those available from building societies and banks.

Such has been their success that some companies have become concerned at the verbal

promises being made. In some cases, they may even be a little worried that disappointed investors may call on them to honour such guarantees in years to come.

Now, the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) is acting to protect investors from overzealous salesmen. It is beginning to look at the way with-profits bonds are sold and has called for the training notes as well as the literature produced by the insurance companies.

It should be ensured that salesmen understand the degree of risk and that the handsome rates of return cannot be guaranteed before they are let loose on the public.

The likely outcome is that the regulator will issue guidance notes. Lautro is rightly concerned that people may be investing without realising the true nature of the bonds. There is a definite place for them in many investment portfolios. But first the sales staff need to know what they are selling.

Small investors compete as equals in BT sell-off

EACH of BT's 20 million customers should have received a letter this week inviting them to register for shares in half the government's remaining £5 billion, 49 per cent stake in the company.

For the first time in a government sale, private investors will be able to compete on equal terms with institutional investors if they want to buy more than £3,000 worth of shares. They will also be offered a choice of eight share shops offering cheap dealing.

Those who register with BT's share information office will be given preference over people who apply directly on a public application form. Those who register and choose a share shop will be given priority if the issue is oversubscribed. Existing BT shareholders are automatically registered and will be eligible for incentives.

The sale is the latest in the government's privatisation programme, which started in 1981 with the sale of British Aerospace. The first half of BT was sold in 1984, attracting 1.4 million registrations and 2.3 million applications. About 1.25 million investors still hold shares in the company.

The sale of the 12 regional electricity companies in December last year was the largest yet, with 7.3 million registrations and 5.7 million applications. Less than 4 million of these still hold shares from the issue, however. With the 1986 British Gas flotation, in which 7.5 million people registered and 4.5 million people applied for shares, only 2.19 million still hold some or all of their allocation.

Investors who held on to their shares would have done well over the past ten years. Quilter Goodison, the stockbroker, has calculated that someone holding 100 shares in each privatisation since 1981 would have invested £2,825. The present capital value would be about £7,700. The dividends for the shares would be about £1,200 after tax. The calculation assumes an investment in a local water company and a local electricity company only. Investors would have benefited from all bonuses and paid all calls.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, announced in his Budget that he wanted to deepen share ownership and encourage investors to hold on to their shares or sell them to buy other stocks.

Privatisation shares have been priced to attract investors and normally start trading at a premium to the offer price.

For the first time, investors are being invited to select one of eight share shops chosen by the government. This is designed to encourage investors to hold on to their shares or, if they sell them, to buy more through the share shops. Ap-

Subscribers can avoid scaling down of shares, but they will have to pay, Sara McConnell reports



licants will receive two vouchers for cheap share sales and two for cheap share purchases. The vouchers can be used at any share shop, which will deal in between 20 and 30 popular stocks, as well as BT. The largest choice comes from the Midland, which will deal in any shares quoted on the stock market.

NatWest offers any stock on the FT-SE 100 index and Barclays is planning to offer more than 50 stocks. Those who keep their BT shares will qualify for incentives, likely to include bonus shares and discounts on subsequent instalments. There will not be discounts on telephone bills, unlike in the 1984 flotation.

Share shops guarantee cheap dealing, at £15 or less for three months after dealing starts, and customers of share shops will be first in line for incentives in the BT issue. Some will offer postal and telephone dealing only. Others, such as Lloyds, will offer over the counter dealing.

Investors can also get incentives if they register through a stockbroker or independent financial adviser. The deadline for this is October 22 and the application has

to be made in writing. Stockbrokers say they will offer competitive rates for cheap dealing services, but investors may have to wait for some of them to declare their hand.

Gavin Oldham, chief executive of the Share Centre, said the company would be waiting to see what share shops were charging, so that the Share Centre could match it.

The four main clearing banks, Barclays, National Westminster, Lloyds and Midland, plus the Abbey National and the Bank of Scotland, have all been selected by the Treasury, along with the Norwich & Peterborough Building Society, which owns Waters Lumis, the Norwich stockbroker, and Sharelink.

Investors, however, are almost certain to have to choose a share shop without knowing how much each will charge for buying and selling shares. The deadline for applying to a share shop has not yet been set but the government has forbidden share shops to reveal how much they will be charging until the time of the offer.

The government is concerned that share shops offering the lowest rate will be swamped with applicants keen

to sell on the first day of trading, as has happened with other privatisations.

The maximum price is expected to be £15 for deals of up to £1,000, while the maximum commission rate for deals above this is expected to be 1.5 per cent. Most share shops expect to charge less than this but are not going to offer the rock bottom prices some financial institutions were charging for selling electricity shares.

Some building societies, including the Skipton and the Leeds, offered free dealing to account holders who bought shares in the electricity privatisation.

There is also no guarantee that investors will continue to get cheap dealing prices after the three months. Most share shops are going to wait to see how much interest there is in dealing.

Midland has charged a minimum £15 flat fee in the past for the flotations but its normal minimum dealing charge is £20 or 1.5 per cent, whichever is the greater. The bank already has 65 share shops in branches and plans to have 100 by the end of the year.

Barclays has offered a cheap dealing service for recent privatisations such as electricity and water, selling shares for £12.50 per deal. A family of four with the same surname would also pay this price. Barclays' normal minimum fee is £28 per deal. Sharelink usually charges a minimum of £20 and also offered cheap dealing at £12.50 for postal dealing in privatisation stocks. Telephone dealing in privatisation stocks costs a minimum of £17.50.

Tony Vine-Lott, managing director of Barclays Stockbrokers, said: "We are looking at having cheaper dealing all the time but we haven't decided whether or not to do this. With issues like water and electricity it was the volume of business which made the difference and allowed us to cut the price."

Previous issues have in most cases been so heavily oversubscribed that allocations have been massively scaled down.

The flotation of the 12 regional electricity companies was 10.7 times oversubscribed. People applying for companies of which they were not customers in most cases received no shares at all if they applied for more than 100 shares. Customers did slightly better.

Investors who want to avoid a scaling down and are prepared to pay more for their shares will be able to bid for stock in competition with institutions through their stockbroker. They will not, however, be eligible for share shop coupons or discounted deals.

SHARE shops and stockbrokers are likely to offer investors the option to put up to £3,000 worth of BT shares into a single company personal equity plan (Pep) when dealing starts in the new issue of shares. The plans will be available for the first time on January 1 next year, and all dividends and capital growth will be tax free (Sara McConnell writes).

Single company Peps were announced in this year's Budget. Investors will still be able to put £6,000 into an ordinary Pep as well as having £3,000 in a single company plan.

Investors will be allowed to put the shares directly into a Pep rather than having to sell them, paying dealing costs, and invest the proceeds, as with existing shares.

The Inland Revenue said the sale of BT shares would be considered a new issue, as long as they were put into a Pep within 42 days. Those who intend to pay the two further instalments for the partly-paid shares, however, will have to take out another single company Pep in the next tax year to avoid exceeding the £3,000 annual limit.

Barclays and Sharelink both said they would be interested in offering a single company Pep. Tony Vine-Lott, Barclays stockbrokers' managing director, said: "A Pep is the perfect way to invest an allocation."

David Jones, managing

New style Pep offers option for shareholders

director of Sharelink, said the broker would be offering a corporate Pep but also a self select Pep with a maximum of £6,000.

Some stockbrokers are also planning to make such a Pep a feature of their service. Gavin Oldham, chief executive of the Share Centre in Tring, Hertfordshire, said the centre was going to tender for shares for clients in competition with institutional investors to make sure people have a large enough allocation to use up the full single company Pep allowance.

Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck, the London stockbroker, is also planning to bid for a larger allocation of shares for clients. Those whose brokers are successful in bidding and who are prepared to pay more will avoid having their application scaled down.

Those who are not prepared to pay more and who find themselves left with a small allocation of shares to add to small allocations from other

privatisations could consider putting all the stocks into a Pep. Barclays has been running a plan with British Airways since July this year. The Pep will accept any privatisation stock or other small share holding.

Selling a privatisation stock and putting it into the Pep costs a minimum of £10 per deal, while selling other stocks costs £20. Postal dealing costs £10 minimum, while telephone dealing costs £18.50 minimum. There are several thousand Pep holders.

Another option is a share exchange scheme, under which a Pep manager takes small numbers of shares, sells them and invests the proceeds in a Pep. Any capital growth or dividends are tax free. Some companies have higher charges than others, however, and some will not accept very small holdings.

Invesco MIM, formerly MIM Britannia, will not charge investors for selling shares as long as they are not

too obscure. There is no minimum size of holding.

Keith Crowley, MIM's marketing director, said: "We will sell the shares in the market-place and absorb the broking charges. A lot of people only have £100 or £200 worth of shares. If they try and sell through a bank or a building society, unless there is a special deal, they will probably pay £25 per holding."

Investors can use share exchange for part or all of a Pep holding, topping up with cash. Those who try to sell large amounts of stock to benefit from free dealing, putting only a small amount in a Pep, are not welcome, however. There is a choice of two Peps and the standard charge is 5 per cent up front and 1.5 per cent annually.

Save & Prosper will charge, in certain circumstances, for selling shares to put into a Pep or unit trust. The company will be able to absorb most privatisation stocks into its unit trust portfolio so investors will not have to pay commission.

If the shares have to be sold rather than absorbed, shares will be sold by a broker. If the total holding is worth at least £2,500 and each holding is worth more than £1,000, S&P will pay the broker's commission. If the holding is smaller than this, the investor will have to pay the commission. The cost depends on the size of the holding.

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Post may hold up certificates

FOR the third consecutive year, investors could spend the run-up to Christmas worrying that share certificates have been caught in the Christmas post (Sara McConnell writes).

A firm timetable has yet to be set for the sale of another tranche of BT. It is expected, however, to follow roughly the same pattern as the water privatisation in 1989 and the electricity companies last year, but two to three weeks later.

Investors were invited to register for electricity shares on September 12 last year, three weeks earlier than this week's invitation for BT. The pathfinder prospectus that detailed the structure of the

electricity offer and bonuses was published on November 3. The BT pathfinder is scheduled for mid-November.

Like other government sales, shares will be paid for in three instalments. For the first time in a privatisation, however, the retail price for the first instalment will be fixed when the pathfinder prospectus is launched. The price for international investors will be fixed a week later, at discount day, so that private investors have a built-in discount. This should ensure that investors will not pay a higher price than institutions if the market falls. The price of the second instalment is

the same for all investors and will be fixed at the time the pathfinder is launched. The price of the third will depend on the amount institutions and brokers are tendering. Tender bids will be made close to the day-dealings start.

Electricity share dealings started on December 11, a week after the offer closed. If dealings begin in the new issue even a week later, interim certificates are bound to be caught in the Christmas post. Many brokers allowed investors to deal before receiving their certificates last year. This will not be an option this time for people selling through share shops, as vouchers will only be sent out with certificates.

BRIEFINGS

CUSTOMERS with buildings and contents insurance from Abbey National will be offered unlimited cover with their policies from Monday. Those who limit their cover to "primary cover" for buildings, contents, or both, will pay less. This cover will pay out an

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charges for sending money abroad. Transfer to a foreign Giro account and payment by cheque will cost £15 while payment overseas in cash will cost £25. The American Express money order service will be withdrawn on October 1 and will be replaced by an

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New funds put their trust in commercial property

By RUPERT BRUCE

WAREHOUSES, shops and offices might seem unlikely investments for a unit trust, but two funds investing in commercial property have just been launched.

In theory, the trusts should rise in value as the British economy pulls out of recession and commercial property prices rise. Both the new unit trusts, the Norwich Property Trust and the Barclays Unicorn Property Trust, offer a high income yield of about 7.5 per cent gross and the prospect of capital gain later. Neither, of course, is guaranteed and there is a danger that savers could find themselves unable to sell when they want to.

In 1981, Henderson Administration, the fund management group, launched a life fund called the Prime Residential Property Fund, to invest in residential property in central London. The fund ballooned from £5 million initially to £95 million in the spring of 1987.

Then financial advisers decided it was time their clients invested in the stock market and switched out of the fund. Henderson could not sell property fast enough to pay off investors and no one received a payout for a year.

The Securities and Investments Board has tried to guard against new style funds repeating this. At most, 80 per cent of funds can be invested in property and the rest must be kept in cash or saleable securities, such as property-related shares or gilts. Henderson's fund, however, was never more than 85 per cent invested in property.

The Norwich Property Trust and the Barclays Property Trust have substantial sums already in the unit trusts, which were previously in unauthorised property funds. This money has proved much less fickle than Henderson's was, so as long as the unit trusts do not grow too much, they should not have liquidity problems.

Chris Laxton, Norwich Property Trust's fund manager, said: "Our main life fund has about £50 million in the unit trust... I think it is pretty important that one does avoid unitholders from outside becoming big holders of the fund."

Save & Prosper, the invest-



'Prospect for rental value to grow': Chris Laxton

ment management group, has been forced to buy or sell property.

This might help explain why the Micropal index of life funds investing in property has underperformed the James Lang Wootton index of commercial property prices

'What no one disputes is that prices are at or near the bottom and should rise soon'

that our money comes in, through regular premium contributions, and having a regular cashflow without a huge sudden inflow, which later turns into a huge sudden outflow, is the ideal way of managing the funds."

Therefore, if the tide of money flowing in and out of a property fund ebbs and flows rapidly, it becomes difficult to manage because the fund may

Barclays has an initial charge of 5.25 per cent and an annual charge of 0.75 per cent. Norwich Union has an initial fee of 6 per cent and an annual one of 1.25 per cent.

Mr Bateman said that although commercial property prices were depressed at the moment, there was not much scope for investment. There was not enough prime retail or industrial property around for a manager to invest easily the £15 million or so a unit trust might hope to attract, he said.

What no one disputes is that prices are at or near the bottom and should rise soon. Kieran Patel, an investment analyst at Hillier Parker, the chartered surveyor, said rental yields on commercial property are at an all time high of 9.4 per cent. They reached a previous high of 8.6 per cent in 1974.

Mr Patel said investors were now starting to invest for the income yield, which has stopped rising. The next step must be a rise in prices.

The Barclays Unicorn and Norwich Union trusts are concentrating on retail property. They believe that the British economy will be led out of recession by consumer spending, so shops should be the first to benefit.

Norwich Union is still switching into this type of property. Mr Laxton bought a £925,000 warehouse in Grantham, Lincolnshire, from Halfords last week. At a rent of £6.50 a square foot, the property has a yield of 10.3 per cent. "We feel that there is a prospect for the yield to improve and the rental value to grow," Mr Laxton said.

Investors who agree with this optimistic view of the market should be aware that they can also invest in the commercial property market through shares.

While the two new trusts are not as vulnerable to liquidity crises as the Henderson fund, investors should heed the compulsory health warning on the funds.

The Norwich Property Trust warning reads: "Please note that we may not be able to realise your investment when you choose because property in the fund may not always be readily saleable. During periods when it is not readily saleable, Norwich Union may refuse to repurchase units."

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Funds hit by stock market slumps

Actuaries agree bonus cuts

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

BONUS rates for with-profits policyholders are set to fall this year after actuaries from the top 20 life offices met last Friday and indicated that bonuses had been set too high in past years.

With-profits funds were badly hit by recent slumps in the stock market but the need to compete pushed them into larger payouts than they could afford.

The informal meeting was called by Hugh Scurfield, the president of the Institute of Actuaries and chief actuary and general manager of Norwich Union. The last time such a meeting was called by the institute was more than three years ago, a few months after the stock market crash. The life companies fear that they will not be able to sell their policies in a competitive market if they reduce their bonus rates, but their investment experience over the past two years is telling them to do so.

Those present stressed that the institute was not attempting to operate a cartel to reduce bonus rates on with-profits policies. The discussion is, however, likely to influence life companies as they consider the bonus levels to set at the end of the year.

Mr Scurfield said: "Professionally, it seemed a good idea to share each other's thoughts about our overall experience. We were not trying to reduce or limit anyone's freedom of action."

"We started to talk about the investment background in which we are now operating. The fact is that the market had gone down heavily last year and this year it has come back up, although not enough up to say that we have two good investment years."

"The two years together resulted in two mediocre investment years and not the sort of investment years we had in the Eighties. We all agreed on that. No one was in any doubt that it would have some impact on bonuses. To say we did not talk about bonuses would be nonsense. We obviously did."



Scurfield: 'good idea'

"It will be interesting to see what happens at the end of the year from a number of companies. Inevitably, payouts will have to react. It will be the short term two-year payouts that will have to react most."

He continued: "We talked about the inevitability of lower returns in the Nineties than we had in the Eighties. With lower returns we expect that payouts will come down and as payouts come down reversionary bonuses will come down. We were not trying to talk detailed bonuses. That we did avoid."

Last year, companies took the view that they were taking decisions on bonus rates in the middle of a trough. They therefore dipped into their reserves to maintain bonuses and smooth the returns on their policies. After the end of the Gulf war they expected investment performance to recover. It has not done so sufficiently.

Mr Scurfield added: "As the actuaries of the funds, we do recognise our positions as the trustees of the policyholders. It is quite natural for the trustees, especially as investment markets are not as good as before, to ensure we are doing the right things for policyholders and protecting their interests."

The returns on with-profits policies since the stock market crash have been higher than the uninvested managed funds. This can only be achieved by dipping into reserves, but now bonuses would be nonsense. Several of the companies represented at the meeting are

concerned that the returns cannot be afforded.

The bonus levels have also influenced the investment policies of fund managers. Higher investment in gilts have been made to increase the yield, leaving less scope to invest in equities.

One actuary said: "Every office is suffering. We are hoping this will sober the market up a bit. There is no doubt that with-profits cannot continue to pay out more than managed funds each year. The meeting had to take place now. The results are out in January."

Tony Russell, actuary at Eagle Star, said: "Taking the two years as a whole, investment performance has not been great. We have got to look at the edging down of maturity benefits. We are not yet in the season of deciding the bonus levels. There is still three months to go."

"Equity returns were unusually high in the Eighties. In the longer term, the returns are likely to be lower."

He added that no definite commitments were made at the meeting, although he conceded: "Thinking may have been influenced by what said at the meeting."



Informal meeting: the Institute of Actuaries' HQ

Lautro to investigate 'misleading' sales of with-profit bonds

THE Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) is investigating the way with-profits insurance bonds are being sold. The regulator is checking the sales literature, sales training programmes and advertisements to make sure that investors are not being led to believe that returns are guaranteed (Lindsay Cook writes).

Prudential, Legal & General and Norwich Union supplied the information this week and it is now being analysed. Guidance notes are then likely to be published by Lautro on how the bonds should be sold.

The bonds have enjoyed considerable success in the past three to four months, with more than £1 billion being invested this year as the interest rates from building societies and banks have fallen.

Weekend Money warned investors last month of the misleading way the bonds were being sold.

Mike Abrahams, chief compliance officer, said: "We are keen to make sure that what is said in the sitting room and in the brochures accurately reflects the degree of risk and

that there is no indication that the return is guaranteed."

With endowment business reduced because of the poor property market, salesmen have leapt at the chance to sell the new-style bonds which pay commission of up to 5.88 per cent. This is nearly double the rate for selling unit trusts and works out at almost £600 for every £10,000 invested.

Some salesmen have not been entirely honest in the way they have tried to sell the bonds. Instead of making it clear the bonds are a medium to long term investment in the stock market that can outperform deposit accounts, they are sold as alternatives to savings accounts.

In one case, a widow with £30,000 from her husband's life assurance to invest was told to put it all in a bond and was given a typewritten sheet, which stated that there was no risk, that the return was guaranteed and that it was better than interest levels attainable from building societies.

The rates have already come down in some cases. Norwich Union cut its rate in the summer from 10.5 per cent to 9.75 per cent net. The

rates depend largely on the returns on the investments made by the insurance companies. To pay out a net annual rate of 10 per cent they have to earn a gross return of 13 per cent unless they are willing to dip into their reserves.

Projected cash values given for the first five years of the bonds by insurance companies assume that current bonus rates will be maintained. Some companies are enhancing these calculations by including terminal bonuses that make their rates look competitive. Terminal bonuses are even less certain than annual ones, although companies obviously hope to maintain them.

Most companies reserve the right to make a "market value adjustment" on surrender. This could mean that if the stock market has fallen dramatically the value of the investment will be reduced on encashment. General Accident makes early redemption charges on money withdrawn from its with-profits bond in the first three years.

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Help for home plan debtors

By SARA MCCONNELL

THE Cheltenham & Gloucester building society has this week written to 400 elderly customers who took out mortgages as part of a home income plan, to ask them to

contact the society and discuss rescheduling or reducing their mortgage repayments.

Many of these people are faced with large monthly payments that they cannot afford. They were encouraged by financial advisers to take out a mortgage on a property and invest the money in an investment bond. Income from the bond was intended to cover mortgage repayments but the value of the bonds fell. Some borrowers could now lose their homes.

The C&G has set up a free telephone line, 0800 272 383, for people to make appointments to discuss their mortgage. Twelve branches in the South-east have been chosen as contact points, but people can choose to be visited in their homes if they prefer.

The C&G said: "We will be suggesting various options, like paying at a fixed rate or rolling up some of the interest. It will probably be necessary

for borrowers to surrender the bond." However, it had not made any non-possession guarantee.

Nearly half the borrowers were lent money by the Guardian, the Peckham and the Portsmouth building societies, which have since been taken over by the C&G itself.

Other building societies have also started rescheduling such payments. The West Bromwich has 1,800 borrowers with home income plans, whom it is now visiting to discuss mortgage problems.

Building societies, brokers and insurance companies face legal action from about 15 elderly clients. Barnett Sampson, the solicitor, yesterday instructed counsel to formulate court proceedings and called on societies and insurers to cancel mortgage debts and pay up bonds.

Customers warned to destroy discarded carbons

Phantom fraudster copied credit card magnetic strip

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

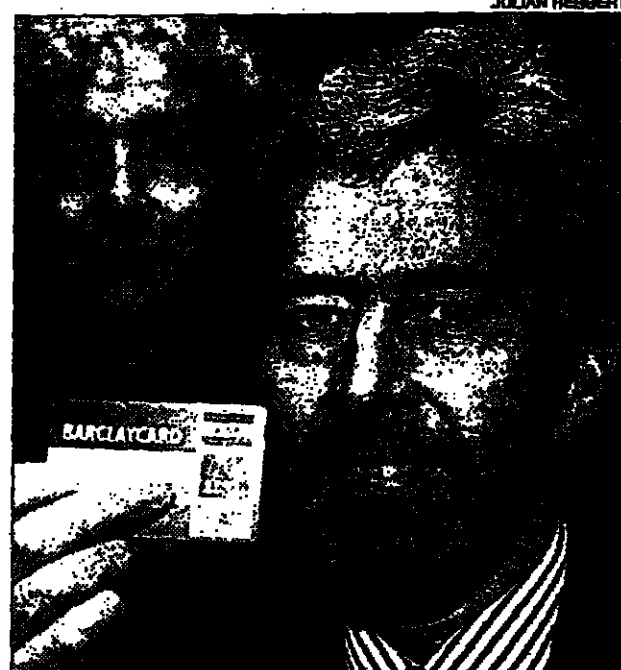
GERALD and Pat Bradley were surprised when their credit card bill contained 17 items they had not bought from shops they had not visited. When they contacted Barclaycard to find out what had happened, the company arranged to send the sales vouchers to the couple in Bookham, Surrey.

Mrs Bradley said: "I think they expected us to see the vouchers and suddenly remember we had bought all the things. When the vouchers arrived they did not match either of our signatures."

The account details were identical to the couple's, neither of whom had lost their cards. Over the next six months, more mysterious items appeared on their bills. These were mostly bought in the Southampton area, although a few were at an electrical shop not far from their home.

Eventually, the Bradleys asked for a new account number and the "phantom" purchases stopped. In the meantime, £1,500 had been billed to the couple, although Barclaycard cancelled all the fraudulent spending when the items were identified.

The mystery was cleared up when a sharp-eyed sales assistant became suspicious about



Victims: Gerald and Pat Bradley's card was copied

a customer. The result was a three-year jail sentence for the fraudster, who had produced a counterfeit magnetic strip using details from the couple's account. This had been attached to his card and every time he bought something from a store with an electronic till the bill was sent to the Bradleys' account.

Barclaycard said only two

other similar frauds have been discovered. Barry Fergus, director of fraud control at Barclaycard, said that it was more sophisticated than counterfeit cards produced in the Far East.

The information needed to encode the fake magnetic strip had probably been obtained from a discarded credit card carbon. The information

given by a customer when buying items on the telephone with a card would not be sufficient to make a strip.

This week, Mr Fergus attended a conference in Venice, to look at ways of combating card fraud involving counterfeit cards and strips. He said: "In the Far East, they are counterfeiting cards but they cannot be used electronically. In the States, they are copying magnetic strips on to other bits of plastic. We need to look at the best ways of stopping these frauds."

He warned cardholders to take the carbons and destroy them when shopping, especially abroad. Customers should also check their statements carefully and contact their card issuer if there are items they do not recognise. They should also report a missing card immediately.

Barclaycard launched Fraudwatch in June to check all vouchers for deviations from the normal pattern of spending. These may indicate a card has been stolen without the owner knowing. When it started, 200 to 300 customers were called every day to find out if their card was missing. About 4 per cent reported they were. Since then the system has been refined and twice as many people are being told by the company that their card is missing before they have even realised.

Laser photocard enters trials

THE Royal Bank of Scotland is adding customers' photographs to bank cards in an effort to combat fraud. If a pilot scheme is successful, all customers may be charged for cheque guarantee and cash dispenser cards (Lindsay Cook writes).

During the pilot, which began this week, up to 30,000 customers in Edinburgh, Glasgow, London and Manchester are being asked to supply photographs and signatures for the new Highline cards, which can be used as cheque guarantee, cash dispenser and debit cards. Photographs could also be added to the bank's credit cards later.

Tony Schofield, managing director of the bank's branch

banking division, said: "We would envisage, however, that the eventual new 'super card' will involve a small charge to customers for the added security and allied benefits." The banks estimate that it would cost £100 million to replace the 30 million existing cards with photocards.

The bank is using lasers to burn the images of the photograph and signature into the plastic cards, to make it difficult for thieves to tamper with the images.

Last year, banks and building societies lost £122.5 million through plastic card fraud. Retailers suffered further losses when staff carelessness contributed to the fraud.

Cards with photographs of customers may enable card issuers to charge more of their losses to retailers. Currently, if a sales assistant does not check the signature or the expiry date on a card, the bank may charge any loss to them.

Later this month, bank representatives will meet Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, to discuss proposals made by the crime prevention unit in June. The report said laser engraved photographs could reduce the number of people able to pass off a card as their own. But the unit conceded that the costs of producing the cards may be as much as the reduction in fraud.

Elizabeth Phillips, director general of the Credit Card

Research Group, welcomed the Royal Bank of Scotland's initiative. She said: "It will be useful to have this pilot to see if it reduces fraud before any decision is taken on whether all cards should carry photographs."

She was concerned that sales assistants who challenged fraudulent users of cards may put themselves in danger. She pointed out that it was easier for them to tell a customer that a machine had rejected their card than to question the identity of the user.

In America, the use of photographs for identity purposes had been discredited by people sticking pictures of King Kong on their cards and not being challenged, she added.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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OBJECTIVE To produce capital growth through investment in any economic sector in Japan.

PORTFOLIO STRUCTURE The Manager will invest predominantly in ordinary shares of Japanese companies but may also invest in their derivatives such as convertible bonds, warrants and traded options where appropriate. As fluctuating exchange rates may enhance or reduce sterling values of overseas investment, the Manager may from time to time consider the merits of limiting any single currency risks. The Trust Deed permits the Manager to exercise borrowing powers, and to invest in any securities within the terms of the Authorised Unit Trust Scheme (Investment and Borrowing Powers) Regulations 1988, as amended.

TYPES OF UNIT Accumulation Units only are available. With Accumulation Units income is automatically reinvested and reflected in the unit price. The Estimated Gross Yield is minimal.

UNIT PRICES The price at which the Manager sells units (Offer) and buys units (Bid) will normally be calculated as at 4.00pm each business day and published a day later in the financial press. The difference between these prices (the spread) is 0.24% on 2 October 1991, although the Manager may vary these prices and the spread within the terms of the Trust Deed. The value of units and the income received depend on the value of the trust's assets and income received on these assets.

CHARGES The Offer Price includes an initial charge of 6% (equivalent to 5.66% of the Offer Price). An annual charge of 1.5% is deducted on a daily basis from the fund. The Trust Deed permits a maximum of 7% and 15% respectively and also allows the

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TAXATION The Trust itself is not subject to Capital Gains Tax. You will not be subject to CGT on the sale of your units unless your total gains in the tax year exceed the annual exemption limit. Income is automatically reinvested net of basic rate tax. On 15th April and 15th October each year you will receive a Tax Voucher and have no further liability if you are a basic rate taxpayer.

DEALING Units may normally be bought and sold between 9am and 5pm any business day. To buy units return the completed application or telephone our Dealers on 031-668 3724. By telephoning, you can normally buy units at the current offer price (if historic price) although you may request to buy in the next price calculated (Forward Price). A Contract Note is issued the next working day. A Unit Certificate follows within 21 days of (a) receipt of payment and registration details or (b) expiry of any cancellation period granted, whichever is the later. To sell units return your endorsed Unit Certificate. Payment will be made within 4 working days.

SCHEME PARTICULARS Available on request, and copies of the Annual and Interim Reports are available from the Manager. The Trust Deed can be viewed at the Manager's Office.

MANAGER & REGISTRAR Scottish Widows Fund Management Ltd, a Unit Trust Manager acting as principal and a member of LAUTRO, IMRO and the UTA.

INVESTMENT MANAGER Scottish Widows Investment Management Ltd, Member of IMRO. (Both companies registered at 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh.)

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ROBERT FLEMING SAVE & PROSPER

Lenders favour smaller mortgages

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

BORROWERS applying for loans of up to £75,000 are being offered a lower interest rate than larger loans by First Mortgage Securities. The smaller loans can be fixed at 10.25 per cent for two years, an annual percentage rate of 12.25 per cent. Larger loans cost 10.6 per cent (APR 12.29 per cent).

Larger lenders have been concentrating on those homebuyers wanting to borrow most. The FMS loan has an arrangement fee of £250 and borrowers who redeem during the fixed rate period pay three months' interest and one month's thereafter.

The North of England Building Society has mortgages fixed at 10.4 per cent for five years (APR 12.1 per cent). There is a £195 application fee.

The Town & Country Building Society is offering a four-year fixed-rate loan at 9.5 per cent in the first year and 10.5 per cent for the following three years. This gives an APR of 12.3 per cent, available on loans above £15,000. There is a £195 application fee.

Hill Samuel Mortgage Services has launched a fixed-rate loan over five years at 10.5 per cent (APR 11.3 per cent), which also has a low start option allowing up to 3 per cent of the interest in year one to be deferred. An administration fee of £345 is charged and four months' interest has to be paid in the first two years for redemptions. This is then reduced to three months.

Record of arrears could be bar to cheaper loans

By SARA MCCONNELL

BORROWERS with a record of arrears in the past three years may find it difficult to remortgage to take advantage of cheaper loans currently being offered.

Building societies are also reluctant to lend to those with county court judgments against them as they have to use extra capital to cover the increased risk of the loans.

The Building Societies Commission in April gave societies six months to implement redefined guidelines on the capital needed to cover certain types of risky loans. These specified that the definition of borrowers with known debt problems should include those who are three months or more in arrears with mortgage, rent or other loan repayments, or who have a county court judgement against them for more than £250.

Borrowers are also considered high risk if they have more than one county court judgement for any amount.

Various types of riskier loans, including those where the interest is rolled up and added to the loan, and low start mortgages, now also require extra capital.

Norman Digance, secretary to the commission, said: "We are saying that some types of loan are riskier than standard repayment loans and need more capital."

"Many societies have withdrawn lending on these sorts of mortgages. The same applies where societies are lending to people with known levels of debt."



ing to people with known levels of debt."

Societies who wished to take greater lending risks had been recalculating their capital requirements over the past six months, he added.

The Skipton Building Society gave warning that borrowers in debt would find it more difficult to obtain another loan, even if they went into arrears for a good reason.

The society said that it would cost the same in capital reserves to lend one borrower with debt problems £50,000 as it would to lend two borrowers

with no debt problems £50,000 each.

Risk is assessed on a points system. Safe mortgages of up to 95 per cent of the value of the property have to be covered by capital of 2 per cent of the amount borrowed. Loans to borrowers with known debt problems have to be covered with capital of 4 per cent of the amount borrowed. If the borrower is six months or more in arrears, the rules require cover of an additional 10 per cent of the amount borrowed.

John Goodfellow, the

Skipton's chief executive, said: "There is no doubt that borrowers currently or recently in debt will find it more and more difficult to obtain another mortgage."

"Many will be given the advice to remain where they are until the three-year period has passed and acquire a satisfactory repayment record. There may be some societies who will still offer assistance but this will be very much on a price differential basis and borrowers with debt difficulties may find the cost prohibitive."

John Carrier, deputy chief executive of the Scarborough Building Society, said: "This will make it more difficult for some people to get mortgages because some societies will not lend to borrowers with track records of debt."

"A lot will depend on the capital position of the society. It will also be more difficult to remortgage."

He said that people in arrears would be better off sticking with the society that gave them the original loan and building up a good track record rather than approaching another society.

Building societies will know if a borrower has a record of arrears because they normally ask for references or statements from a previous lender to check whether an applicant can meet monthly repayments. They can also check on the new register set up by the Council of Mortgage Lenders in August, which lists all those whose homes have been repossessed.

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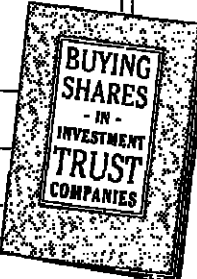
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Bank reimbursed account after theft uncovered

From P.D. Atkinson
Sir, I refer to the letter from Roy Worthington (Weekend Money Letters, September 28). The following is my experience.

Our house was burgled while we were on holiday in June. Among the items identified as lost were my wife's and my passports.

Approximately four weeks

after the burglary I discovered that the thieves had also taken my Eurocheque book (8 or 9 cheques) and Eurocheque card. £800 had been drawn from my account using these cheques at locations on the Continent.

On reporting the loss in person at my Barclays branch I was informed that I would not be liable for this loss. The

total sum drawn using the stolen cheques was credited to my account and I was reimbursed for the charges incurred due to my account being overdrawn by the fraudulent transaction. Yours faithfully,
P.D. ATKINSON,
63 Hooombe Road,
Chandlers Ford,
Hampshire.

Idea of honour penalised by system

From Mrs Stella Kon
Sir, My credit card company has just announced that they will soon start charging an annual fee for their services. This is fair enough. But they add that this fee will be waived for people who have incurred an average of £5 a month interest charges in the preceding year.

I have always operated my credit card account according to

old-fashioned ideas. I have tried, often at considerable inconvenience, to pay the bills promptly rather than incur interest charges which I perceived as a penalty for a shameful debt.

It seems like a forcible rejection of my efforts to be a good client, to find that people who have consistently been late on their payments, and hence run up interest charges, are being rewarded by waiving of the annual fee.

I feel painfully caught in the transition from an older system of values, in which it is honourable to repay debts promptly, and a new financial system where creditors apparently do not want one to repay promptly.

I wish my education had taught me the new system to spare me the sense of injustice which I now feel.

Yours faithfully,
STELLA KON,
128-D Cairnhill Road,
Singapore.

Holiday time for working money

From Joan Salter
Sir, My bank has a free bill-paying service whereby I can ensure that any bill can be paid on any date just by a simple phone call. An invaluable service to those amongst us that wish to maximise on the credit paid to us for our monies by the banks and minimise on the interest paid by us to the credit card companies, i.e. the banks.

However, I have been informed that I must allow five full working days between my money leaving my account and being credited to the payee.

Where does the money go for those five days? On its annual holidays? Stuck down a BT line?

Yours faithfully,
JOAN SALTER,
64 Church Crescent,
London N10.

LETTERS

No, Beattie, I haven't got your plumber's bill.



Silent society

From Marguerite Bowers
Sir, Letters published Saturday 28 September in your column from Mr MacNeill, M.J. Calder and Mrs Lorna Campbell, concerning their displeasure with the Nationwide Anglia Building Society rang a bell. Let me reassure them that they are not alone.

An area manager visiting my local branch sent a fax in his name to try and help, but again no reply, nor do they answer the phone to customers or branch staff. It would appear they are not easily moved.

I have written to the chairman, Roy Duncombe, again today and would recommend that the Nationwide's less happy customers do so too. You won't get a reply, but it may make you feel better.

Yours faithfully,
MARGUERITE BOWERS,
37 The Farthings,
Kingston Hill,
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey.

Forgotten assurance

From Mr C.J. Nickless
Sir, Ten years ago, I took out an assurance policy with a particular company.

One of the guaranteed options was that on certain anniversaries, the tenth being one such, I could increase the amount payable without medical evidence or the like.

Three months ago, therefore, I asked for an illustration of the return I would expect if I were to increase my monthly payment by £30 a month.

I was told both verbally and in writing that the company were no longer marketing the plan and I would therefore have to take out another plan altogether.

What action, if any, may be taken against the company who clearly have no concept of the old adage "my word is my bond"?

Yours faithfully,
C.J. NICKLESS,
The Hawthornes,
121 Middstone Road,
Chatham,
Kent.

Letters are welcomed, but The Times regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Bank	Normal rate	Compounded at 25%	Compounded at 40%	Min/Max Investment	Notice	Current
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:	2.50	2.50	2.12	none/none	7 day	
Fixed Term Deposits:						
1 month	7.10	7.10	5.70	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-488 1587
3 months	7.27	7.27	5.82	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-488 1587
6 months	7.42	7.42	5.94	25,000-50,000	6 mth	071-488 1587
1 year	7.57	7.57	6.06	25,000-50,000	1 year	071-488 1587
Local Branch	7.57	7.57	6.06	10,000-40,000	1 mth	0748 328855
Local Branch	7.57	7.57	6.06	10,000-40,000	3 mth	0748 328855
Local Branch	7.57	7.57	6.06	10,000-40,000	6 mth	071-328 1000
Local Branch	7.57	7.57	6.06	10,000-40,000	1 year	071-328 1000

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS

Bank	Normal rate	Compounded at 25%	Compounded at 40%	Min/Max Investment	Notice	Current
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland WACC	6.46	6.46	5.34	2,500	none	081-442 7777
First Direct	6.16	6.16	5.03	2,500	none	0804 328881
First Direct	6.16	6.16	5.03	2,500	none	0804 328881
First Direct	6.16	6.16	5.03	2,500	none	0804 328881
First Direct	6.16	6.16	5.03	2,500	none	0804 328881

BUILDING SOCIETIES

Bank	Normal rate	Compounded at 25%	Compounded at 40%	Min/Max Investment	Notice	Current
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share:	5.25	5.25	4.20	1 min	none	
First Direct	7.50	7.50	6.00	500 min	none	
First Direct	7.50	7.50	6.00	500 min	none	
First Direct	7.50	7.50	6.00	500 min	none	
First Direct	7.50	7.50	6.00	500 min	none	

NATIONAL SAVINGS

Bank	Normal rate	Compounded at 25%	Compounded at 40%	Min/Max Investment	Notice	Current
NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c:	5.00	5.00	3.00	5-10,000	9 day	041-648-4855
Investment A/c:	10.75	10.75	8.10	5,000 min	1 mth	041-648-4855
Income Bond:	11.00	11.00	8.25	2,000-25,000	3 mth	0253 981871
Deposit Share:	11.00	11.00	8.25	5,000 min	3 mth	041-648-4855
Gift Income Cert:	8.50	8.50	6.50	25-5,000	5 day	081-388 4800
Young Plan:	8.50	8.50	6.50	20-200/min	14 day	081-388 4800
Extension Rate:	5.01	5.01	3.01	100-100,000	5 yrs	041-648-4855
Capital Bond:	11.50	11.50	8.50			

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

Bank	Normal rate	Compounded at 25%	Compounded at 40%	Min/Max Investment	Notice	Current
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
Handover Guarantee	8.50	8.50	7.25	5,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from 1773.00
Handover Guarantee	8.50	8.50	7.25	5,000 min	2 yrs	Figures from 1773.00
Handover Guarantee	8.50	8.50	7.25	5,000 min	3 yrs	Figures from 1773.00
Handover Guarantee	8.50	8.50	7.25	5,000 min	4 yrs	Figures from 1773.00
Handover Guarantee	8.50	8.50	7.25	5,000 min	5 yrs	Figures from 1773.00

HOLIDAY RATES

Bank	Normal rate	Compounded at 25%	Compounded at 40%	Min/Max Investment	Notice	Current
HOLIDAY RATES						
Spanish Package	10.5%	10.5%	8.5%			1773.00
French Package	10.5%	10.5%	8.5%			1773.00
Great Britain	10.5%	10.5%	8.5%			1773.00
Indian Line	10.5%	10.5%	8.5%			1773.00

*2.5% for balances below £500, first 2% of interest on first £100,000 for balances of £100,000 and over. *2.5% for balances below £500, first 2% of interest on first £100,000 for balances of £100,000 and over. *2.5% for balances below £500, first 2% of interest on first £100,000 for balances of £100,000 and over.

BES schemes attract £55m in six months

By Sara McConnell

UP TO £55 million has been invested in business expansion schemes in the six months since the beginning of this tax year, with many higher-rate taxpayers using up allowances from the previous year.

Investors get tax relief at their highest rate of tax on the first £40,000 invested in a business expansion scheme (BES) as long as the shares are held for five years. They have until today to make use of unused tax relief from pre-

vious years. The maximum tax relief available is £5,000. Poor publicity for early BESs, in which shares proved difficult to sell and a lot of investors lost money, means that many now try to promote their schemes as safe.

Sun Life and Johnson Fry, two of the biggest BES promoters, are both offering assured tenancy buy-back schemes, in which property is bought by the scheme and rented to an institution, normally a university or housing association, for five years. The institution contracts to buy back the property at a price set to give investors a high return after five years.

Sun Life, the largest BES promoter, last week closed its BESRes VII Campus scheme after attracting £11 million. The offer was £1 million oversubscribed. The scheme has bought property from housing associations and universities, including Lancaster, Sussex and Essex.

Graham Cox, Sun Life's BES manager and group economist, said the return to investors would be about 16.5 per cent net of tax after five years.

He added that the scheme normally had guarantees from the bankers of the university or the housing association, as well as bank deposits in the name of the institution as further guarantee.

Mr Cox admitted, however, that housing associations and universities could sometimes have problems meeting the terms of their contracts to buy back the property after five years. If this happened, the scheme would have to take the them to court.

Johnson Fry has attracted £6.5 million into its Fifth Super Growth Scheme in the last 14 days.

Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 31).

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Weekly Total
1	+8	+6	+2	+3	+2			
2	+8	+3	+4	+6	+4			
3	+9	+8	+3	+4	+3			
4	+6	+7	+3	+2	+2			
5	+9	+8	+2	+3	+3			
6	+7	+4	+5	+6	+4			
7	+8	+8	+6	+1	+1			
8	+7	+7	+1	+3	+3			
9	+8	+5	+3	+5	+2			
10	+6	+8	+5	+2	+1			
11	+6	+3	+7	+3	+1			
12	+8	+4	+3	+5	+1			
13	+5	+3	+6	+2	+1			
14	+7	+2	+5	+6	+3			
15	+6	+8	+2	+4	+1			
16	+8	+4	+3	+4	+2			
17	+8	+6	+2	+2	+2			
18	+8	+6	+2	+4	+1			
19	+7	+3	+4	+7	+4			
20	+8	+6	+1	+3	+1			
21	+8	+5	+3	+3	+2			
22	+7	+3	+4	+7	+4			
23	+5	+4	+6	+3	+1			
24	+7	+2	+4	+6	+3			
25	+5	+6	+2	+2	+2			
26	+8	+5	+2	+3	+2			
27	+6	+3	+7	+2	+1			
28	+6	+4	+3	+5	+5			
29	+7	+8	+2	+4	+3			
30	+8	+2	+4	+5	+3			
31	+8	+5	+4	+5	+3			
32	+8	+3	+3	+6	+5			
33	+5	+4	+5	+1	+1			
34	+5	+6	+2	+2	+1			
35	+8	+7	+3	+4	+2			
36	+8	+2	+5	+2	+2			
37	+7	+2	+5	+7	+4			
38	+8	+3	+7	+2	+2			
39	+9	+5	+4	+3	+1			
40	+5	+3	+5	+1	+1			
41	+7	+7	+1	+3	+3			
42	+8	+6	+4	+3	+1			
43	+6	+5	+5	+2	+1			
44	+8	+4	+4	+5	+5			

HIGH 30

BRISTOL & WEST BUILDING SOCIETY

"Before the Bristol & West's high interest account, I had to wait 3 months to get at my savings."

BALANCE	GROSS P.A.
£100,000+	11.00%
£50,000+	10.90%
£25,000+	10.60%
£10,000+	10.05%
£5,000+	9.45%
£500+	9.10%

You wouldn't like the idea of waiting 3 months, pulling your hair out, to get at your savings. Neither would the Bristol & West. That's why we've created the new 'High 30' high interest savings account, where you only need to give 30 days notice instead of 90. And if that's still not quick enough, you can, if necessary, make one emergency withdrawal of up to £1,000 without any notice, every 12 months. Study the interest rates. As you can see we haven't let speedy access slow down the growth of your savings. To open our High 30 account, take a short cut to your local branch. Alternatively, call us free on 0800 581 681 during office hours for more information or to find your nearest branch.

CALL US FREE ON 0800 581 681

BRISTOL & WEST BUILDING SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 27, BROAD QUAY, BRISTOL BS99 7AX. INTEREST RATES ARE VARIABLE. INTEREST IS PAYABLE AS AT 1ST APRIL. GROSS RATES DO NOT TAKE ACCOUNT OF DEDUCTIONS OF BASIC RATE INCOME TAX. SOME INVESTORS MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECLAIM TAX DEDUCTED OR HAVE INTEREST PAID WITHOUT THE DEDUCTION OF TAX.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Come rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	THORN EMI	Electronics	
2	Whitman	Industrial S-Z	
3	OBC	Electronics	
4	Severn Trent	Water	
5	Pilkington	Industrial L-R	
6	Burdays	Banking/Discount	
7	Kwik Save	Food	
8	Alfred-Lyons	Breweries	
9	Scott TV	Liquor	
10	Park Foods	Food	
11	Pearson	Newspapers/Pub	
12	Bespak	Industrial A-D	
13	Hickson	Chemicals/Plas	
14	Laporte	Chemicals/Plas	
15	Mud	Electronics	
16	Reed Int	Newspapers/Pub	
17	Finagle	Food	
18	Microfilm Repro	Chemicals/Plas	
19	Sunshine	Food	
20	BCC Group	Industrial S-Z	
21	Geest	Food	
22	Wish Water	Water	
23	Hickson	Textiles	
24	Macarthy	Industrial L-R	
25	Unilever	Industrial S-Z	
26	Corwell Parker A	Industrial A-D	
27	Braden-Gundry	Industrial A-D	
28	Yule Carr	Industrial L-R	
29	Capital Radio	Chemicals/Plas	
30	Providence	Banking/Discount	
31	Quicks Group	Motor/Aircraft	
32	Color Gp	Oil/Gas	
33	Thames Water	Water	
34	BAT	Tobacco	
35	Johnstone Press	Newspapers/Pub	
36	Sackin	Food/Catering	
37	Compas Gp	Liquor	
38	Grand Met	Breweries	
39	JS Pathology	Industrial S-Z	
40	ALM	Industrial A-D	
41	Winstanley	Newspapers/Pub	
42	Winstanley	Water	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

Three readers shared the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Ms Ellen Moriarty, of Leamington Spa, Mr S Enrol-Mackenzie, of Chesham, and Mrs M.J. Stephens, of Bristol, each receive £666.66.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990/91 High Low Stock Price Change %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

UNDATED

1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

INDEX-LINKED

1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Losses reduced at close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began September 30. Dealings end October 11. Contango day October 14. Settlement day October 21.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100.00	99.50	British Telecom	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Telecom	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Telecom	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

BREWERIES						
100.00	99.50	Adnams	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Adnams	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Adnams	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

BUILDING, ROADS						
100.00	99.50	Amey	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Amey	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Amey	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

ELECTRICITY						
100.00	99.50	British Energy	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Energy	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Energy	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

FINANCE, LAND						
100.00	99.50	Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Bank of Scotland	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
100.00	99.50	British Trust	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Trust	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Trust	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

FOODS						
100.00	99.50	Asda	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Asda	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Asda	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
100.00	99.50	ICI	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	ICI	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	ICI	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

DRAPERY, STORES						
100.00	99.50	Debenhams	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Debenhams	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Debenhams	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

HOTELS, CATERERS						
100.00	99.50	Marriott	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Marriott	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	Marriott	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

S-Z						
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

L-R						
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

E-K						
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Steel	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

INSURANCE						
100.00	99.50	British Insurance	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Insurance	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Insurance	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING						
100.00	99.50	British Paper	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Paper	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Paper	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

PROPERTY						
100.00	99.50	British Property	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Property	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Property	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

LEISURE						
100.00	99.50	British Leisure	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Leisure	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Leisure	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

MINING						
100.00	99.50	British Mining	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Mining	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Mining	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

MOTOR, AIRCRAFT						
100.00	99.50	British Motor	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Motor	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Motor	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS						
100.00	99.50	British News	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British News	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British News	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

OILS, GAS						
100.00	99.50	British Oil	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Oil	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Oil	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

TOBACCO						
100.00	99.50	British Tobacco	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Tobacco	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Tobacco	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

TRANSPORT						
100.00	99.50	British Transport	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Transport	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Transport	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

WATER						
100.00	99.50	British Water	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Water	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Water	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

SHOES, LEATHER						
100.00	99.50	British Shoes	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Shoes	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Shoes	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

TEXTILES						
100.00	99.50	British Textiles	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Textiles	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2
100.00	99.50	British Textiles	100.00	+0.50	+0.5%	15.2

Portfolio PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND

£4,000

Claims required for +204 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Rank	Company	Ind	Price	Change	Div Yld
54	Coast Pk	88	70	-4	1.5
55	Co Westerns Res	100	100	-	5.5
120	Coastal	228	100	-	-
150	Hampd G & G	188	170	-	-
140	Kel Energy	250	160	-	11.5
155	Labadie	160	160	-	20.0
160	De Units	165	160	-	-
209	Manomet	370	20	-	-
11	New London	18	18	-4	-
11	New London	18	18	-4	-
20	Oil Search	29	31	-	-
27	Petroleum	31	35	-	1.7
3	Plains	6	17 1/2	-2	-
34	Prudhoe	419	225	-2	-
220	Prudhoe	219	225	-2	-
113	Ranger	415	42	-2	-
113	Ranger	415	42	-2	-
470	Shell Dutch FTS	500	260	-23	-
80	Southrop	140	140	-	-
26	Talbot Ind	90	90	-	1.0
84	Talbot Energy	94	90	-	1.0
233	Ultramar	250	250	-3	14.0
102	Woodside	180	180	-	-

[illegible]

1991	Ed	Gen	1991
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earred with 1985 was down at 68.9

G SPOT AND FORWARD RATES	OTHER STERLING RATES	DOLLAR
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[illegible]

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1000 1000 1000 1000 1000

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 278: 1039-1044.

7480.0-7470.0	7505.0-7510.0	618725	Mar	133.40	133.60
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100

SCORES FROM

Holders
 safely
 through

Bough's sw
ITV's rugb

THE WEEK-END

Woosnam's No. 1 golf ranking under threat

Olazábal charges two shots clear at halfway stage

Stuttgart — José María Olazábal insists he is running on low batteries, but he still had enough energy left to outshine his Ryder Cup colleagues in the German Masters in Stuttgart yesterday.

A round of 64, which included nine birdies, left him two strokes clear of the field at nine under par after two rounds as he chased his fourth tournament victory of the season. Malcolm Mackenzie, from Sheffield, lies second after a 67, followed by Steven Richardson (71), Nick Faldo (71) and Vicente Fernández, of Argentina (71), a stroke further in arrears.

Olazábal could have matched Ian Woosnam's year-old record of 62 had he not missed when trying to save par at the 11th, and then rolled two birdie putts wide from within ten feet.

Woosnam's grip on the No. 1 world ranking is also under threat. Victory here would enable Olazábal to unseat him after nearly six months at the top, although Olazábal says that has not given him any extra motivation.

He is surprised, though, at his continued good form after taking the Epson Grand Prix title with a score of 19 under par at St Pierre, and winning three-and-a-half points in the Ryder Cup at Kiawah Island.

"My batteries are very low after the Ryder Cup," Olazábal said. "I just thought I'd see how I was going on after two rounds. I expected nothing."

Olazábal would be the fifth European to lead the world rankings after Bernhard Langer, Ballesteros, Faldo and Woosnam, who has been at the top since he won the

Masters in April, but is resting this week.

"Being world No. 1 is not important to me," Olazábal said. "Besides, nobody can really say he is the best player in the world."

Faldo and Ballesteros would probably agree with that. Ballesteros blasted his drive out of bounds at the last, then put his fourth into a bunker before eventually holing out for a double bogey seven. He finished with a 72 for three under par.

Faldo birdied just one of the par-fives, the 2nd, and took six at the par-four 16th after carving a six-iron into trees.

The holder, Sam Torrance, booked an early flight back to Leaga after a 71 failed to make amends for his "tired, demoralised and disorientated" 78 the previous day.

Clairns, Australia — Danielle Ammaccapane of the United States topped the fierce Paradise Palms course yesterday in the first round of the women's world championship.

Ammaccapane, aged 25, recorded a four-under-par 69, three strokes ahead of Corinne Dineen, of Australia, Laura Davies, of Britain, and her compatriot, Dotie Mochrie.

"It's a very difficult course," Ammaccapane said. "It's tough. I have a headache right now. You have to think so much out there."

Rodriguez moves closer to his goal

Holders safely through

CLIFTON, holders of the Graffon Morris, why, reached the third round yesterday with wins at Hunstanton, where the event continues today, and at Royal West Norfolk golf club, Brancaster (a Special Correspondent writes).

For their Brancaster game against Malvern, they brought in a local member, Jonathan Wright, who performed well. Only one of the Scottish sides, Robert Gordons, the 1988 winners, survived. Loretto and Dollar Academy mustered only five men, instead of six, and consequently forfeited games.

Charterhouse, who had topped the Stablesford qualifying competition in the London region, lost to Epsom, the runners-up. Likewise, the West Midlands up. Qualifiers, Greshams, went out to the next best, Ipswich.

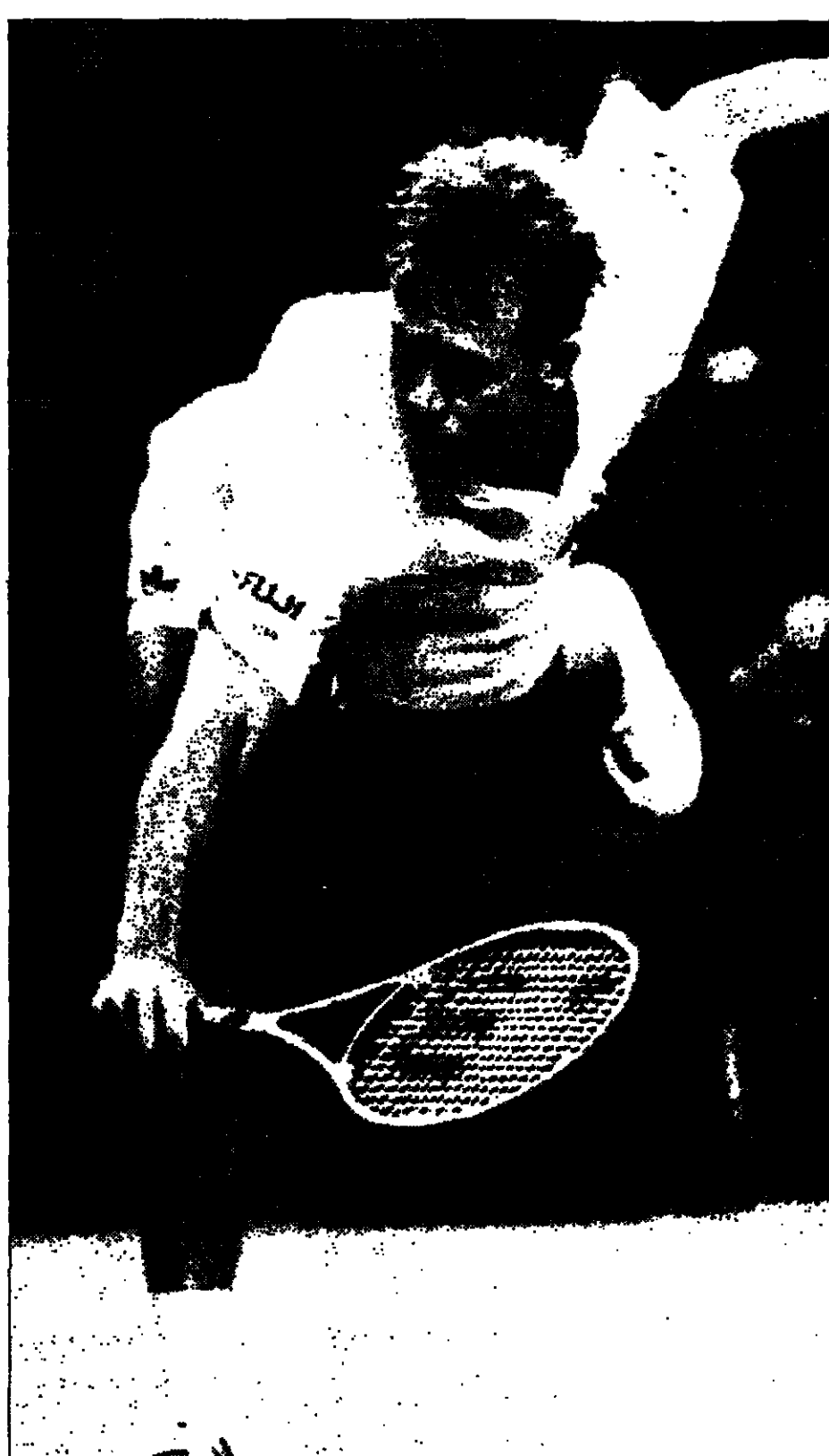
Results, page 37

Clemmons, North Carolina — Chi Chi Rodriguez is within reach of a career-long goal. "I want to be No. 1," the little man with the Panama hat said before a practice session for the \$1.5 million Vantage Championship, the Senior PGA Tour's richest event then began yesterday.

Rodriguez, along with Mike Hill, has four victories this season. Rodriguez also has four second-place finishes, including a play-off loss to Jack Nicklaus in the US Senior Open.

On being No. 1, Rodriguez, 56, said, "I'm going to live to be 112 so I can be middle-aged."

On his putting, "My game has been fantastic, except for putting. I think I stumbled into something last week with that. I moved the ball back in my stance about 12 inches and it's really helped. I've been seeing the line a lot better." (AP)



Tipping the balance: Stefan Edberg volleys in his 6-4, 7-5 win over Michael Chang at the Australian indoor tennis championships in Sydney. Results, page 37

BASKETBALL

Winters ban hits Kingston

KINGSTON may protest to FIBA, the International Basketball Federation, over the circumstances which prevented the American, Voice Winters, from appearing in the European Cup tie against Mechelen on Thursday (Nicholas Harting writes).

The absence of the 6ft 10in forward, from Chicago, was Kingston feel, a contributory factor in their 86-76 defeat.

Although Winters had signed only 48 hours before the game as a short-term replacement for the injured Alan Cunningham, Kingston had passed all the necessary paper work in time, they assumed, for him to play.

Yet, on reaching Belgium, Kevin Cadle, the Kingston coach, discovered to his fury, that Fiba would not sanction the player's appearance.

"If it had been Barcelona, Madrid, or Milan, he would have been registered, no problem," Cadle said yesterday. "But because it's Kingston, he doesn't get registered. That's nonsense."

It was as his team struggled to hold on to its 48-33 half-time lead that Cadle was made to rue the fact that Winters was sitting out the game.

"We'd have had the extra body, we would have been fine, no doubt about it," he said. "That hurt us, not having a man who was rightfully ours."

Kingston did have one extra man, in Martin Clark, but the former England international, who came out of retirement, was clearly not match fit.

Two three-pointers from Colin Irish just before the interval had enabled Kingston to add to Martin Henlan's good work by laying the foundations for a seemingly certain victory.

But, from then on, the English club was subjected to an extraordinary burst from the Belgians, particularly Herman (19 points).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford hope Bradley will halt their slide

By KEITH MACKLIN

AFTER two disappointing and damaging defeats which have seen them tumble to halfway in the first division, Castleford need a victory against Widnes tomorrow to pick them up. They have enterprisingly moved quickly to strengthen their squad by giving a contract to Graham Bradley, who played centre for Penrith Panthers, the Australian champions, at Anfield on Wednesday.

Castleford hope to include Bradley in their team despite the fact that he had just completed a gruelling season down under before Wednesday's tough game.

They need to restore their confidence after the 25-14 hammering at St Helens, a match in which they were at one time trailing 25-0.

Widnes have their own problems, since Martin Offiah is reputedly fit again, but the Great Britain wing is proving an awkward customer, particularly since Wigan made public the badly kept secret that they have offered Widnes £250,000 for him.

Offiah has said repeatedly that he does not wish to play for Widnes, obviously with an eye to a move to Central Park, but

Jim Mills, the Widnes chairman, has said with equal determination that Offiah will stay and honour his contract, which has six years to run.

It will be interesting to see whose will prevail. Widnes cannot afford to lose Offiah.

Hull, having got off the ground with a win at Wakefield last week, should collect further points at home to Salford, who are struggling on their return to the first division.

The same must be said of Salford's near neighbours, Swinton, who will do well to overcome Hull Kingston Rovers in a battle between promoted clubs at Station Road.

Wigan are moving nicely into top gear and their attendance at Central Park against Featherstone Rovers will be considerably boosted not merely by the win over Penrith but by the first appearance of their Australian import, Gene Miles.

Cliff Paul, Penrith's Wakefield-born forward, has been banned for four games after being sent off against Carlisle nine days ago. Martin Oganby, also of Wakefield, Keith Bell, of Huddersfield, and Gary Kendall, of Barrow, have all been given two-match bans.

CYCLING

Boardman steps up his mileage

By PETER BRYAN

CHRIS Boardman, Britain's brightest hope for an Olympic medal in Barcelona next year, will be glad when he finishes his season by defending his national hill climb title near Kington at the end of the month.

This year, he has gathered a handful of national road and track titles, broken a world record and, more recently, inspired a national 4,000 metres team pursuit record on the Olympic track. "It's been a hard year and the pressure has never been off," he said.

Boardman fears that he has eased back too much in his training recently, why else, he asks, was he beaten for only the second time this year in a road race last weekend? The defeat, he believes, was not because of a tactical error but rather a physical weakness.

This week, he has stepped up his training from a standard eight hours to 14 in the hope that he can win, for a fifth time, the Merseyside invitation 32-mile time-trial near Chester tomorrow.

BRIDGE

Flourish by women

BRITAIN'S women came good in their last two Venice Cup qualifying matches in Tokyo yesterday, beating the front-runners, China, 21-9 and crushing Egypt, their close rivals, 25-0 (Albert Dorman writes).

In the quarter-finals, which start today, they are drawn against United States II. Their pairs are: Elizabeth McGowan and Sandra Penfold; Jane Preddy and Jill Mitchell; K. Preddy and Jill Cusack.

The British men cruised through the Bermuda Bowl

round robin, taking second place behind Iceland. In the quarter-finals, Britain have a tough draw against Poland, their closest challenger in the recent European championships. Their pairs are: Tony Forrester and Andy Robson; Tony Sowter and Roman Smolksi; and John Armstrong and Graham Kirby.

In another unfortunate draw, Brazil, the reigning Bermuda Bowl champions, meet United States I, the previous winners. Sweden play Argentina and United States play Iceland.

Bough's switch puts ITV's rugby on top

By KEN LAWRENCE

THIS is the week when the BBC will really feel the pain of losing out to ITV in the Rugby World Cup. The gasping of teeth at Shepherd's Bush will be enough to drown a Concorde take-off. Tomorrow there will be no sport on our national channel, while its commercial rival not only has Ireland and Scotland in World Cup rugby action but the top football match of the weekend, Manchester United v Liverpool.

To pile on the agony, when there are five rugby matches on Wednesday, Desmond Lynam will be introducing a Sportsnight that reports on the progress of Britain's Olympic skiers, Pat Barrett's title bout in Manchester and the Horse of the Year show at Wetherby.

Having endured the abysmal American camera-work from the Ryder Cup, the most admirable stoic silence (only the scapel-like "every-one has their own way" from doing things I suppose," from Peter Alliss demonstrated their frustration), to now be faced with the world's third biggest sporting showpiece on ITV and Screensport must be almost too much to bear.

As Frank Bough (ironically once a Grandstand stalwart)

SPORT ON TELEVISION

THE WEEK IN VIEW

says: "These are very good sports days for ITV. We are in the driving seat for the next month." Then he adds: "I feel sorry for the BBC. I really do."

If you believe that then you believe that Ireland are going to win the World Cup. But Bough has made a superb return to television's sporting stage after a ten-year absence.

"You were brilliant," his colleagues toasted in the England-New Zealand game.

When ITV won the right to screen the World Cup, most expected them to buy up all the rights, the BBC's "voice of rugby". Indeed, they thought about doing so for a while, but then decided to take the wise old head of Bough as team leader and build a new squad that, in the words of Bob Burrows, ITV's head of sport, "would breathe the fresh air into rugby coverage." Which is precisely what they have done.

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY: Memories of a 29-24 defeat by Japan the last time they met should not stop Scotland from winning start to their World Cup campaign (ITV, 7.45pm). Italy v United States, who are in England's pool, play at Old Trafford (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm).

TOMORROW: The Welsh and Irish matches are both live on Screensport (from 12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm).

MONDAY: All quiet on every front. The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm).

TUESDAY: New Zealand and England take on the minnows. The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm). The World Cup: Scotland v France (12.45pm).

FOOTBALL

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Arsenal v Chelsea

Aston Villa v Luton

Everton v Tottenham

Leeds Utd v Sheffield Utd

Oldham v Southampton

QPR v Nottm Forest

Sheffield Wed v Crystal Palace

West Ham v Coventry

Wimbledon v Norwich

Second division

Bristol Rovers v Middlesbrough

Derby County v Bristol City

Ipswich v Oxford

Leicester v Charlton

Millwall v Bournemouth

Plymouth v Swindon

Portsmouth v Newcastle

Port Vale v Walsley

Sunderland v Brighton

Watford v Gillingham

Wolverhampton v Barnsley

Third division

Bolton v Torquay

Chester v Stoke (all ticket)

Doncaster v Bury

Fulham v Brentford

Grimsby v Wigan

Huddersfield v Swindon

Hull v Exeter

Peterborough v Leyton Orient

Reading v Southend

Shrewsbury v Birmingham

Stockport v Bradford

Fourth division

Burnley v Carlisle

Colchester v Wrexham

Doncaster v Crewe

Gillingham v Chesterfield

Lincoln v Halifax

Mansfield v Macclesfield

Northampton v Blackpool

Southport v Hereford

Walsley v Barnet

York v Scarborough

GM Vauxhall Conference

Boston v Farnborough

Colchester v Altrincham

Kettering v Yeovil

Northwich v Yeovil

Redbridge Forest v Chertsey

Runcorn v Wycombe

Slough v Barrow

Taunton v Bath

Welling v Gateshead

B and O Scottish League

Premier division

Aberdeen v St Mirren

Arbroath v Rangers

Celtic v Hearts

Falkirk v Dundee Utd

Hibernian v Dunfermline

St Johnstone v Motherwell

First division

Ayr Utd v Stirling Albion

Clydebank v Motherwell

Dundee v Partick

Forfar v Kilmarnock

Morton v Montrose

Raith Rovers v Hamilton

Second division

Brechin v Dundee

Brechin v Dundee

Brechin v Dundee

Second division

Ailes v Dumbarton

Brechin v Dundee

Brechin v Dundee

Brechin v Dundee

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FOOTBALL

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Arsenal v Chelsea

Aston Villa v Luton

Everton v Tottenham

Generous to join the greats

FROM RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT
IN PARIS

THE heart and the form book say Generous first, the rest nowhere as the best field for more than 20 years lines up for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp tomorrow. Sadly, history and the record books predict a less happy outcome.

Since the inaugural running of Europe's premier middle distance race in 1920, a total of 139 British-trained runners have crossed the Channel in search of glory. All but eight have failed.

Generous will be the tenth favourite for the race from Britain in the past 26 years, and the fifth in the last six years. Yet only two great horses, Mill Reef in 1971 and Dancing Brave in 1986, have justified being market leaders.

Even winning the Derby is not a passport to success. Mill Reef is the only English-trained colt to have completed the Epsom-Longchamp double since the war. The 11 "failures" include Sir Ivor, Nijinsky, Troy and Reference Point.

And so, as Alan Munro dons the dark green silks of Prince Fahd Salman at around 4pm tomorrow, he will know that the statistics and the history of the Arc are not on his side. To make matters worse, the young jockey has six other classic winners to beat in his first Arc - a record number which makes tomorrow's race one to savour.

However, records exist to be broken and any reading of the form book has Generous and Suave Dancer well clear of their rivals. According to *Timeform*, Paul Cole's flaxen-maned son of Caerleon is 4lb ahead of John Hammond's French challenger.

More significantly, the Halifax sages have Generous rated at 140, a near magical figure when you consider the previous Arc winners to have attained such a mark. Since 1951 there have been only five: Ribot, Sea-Bird II, Vaguely Noble, Mill Reef and Dancing Brave.

Since spreading the Derby field at Epsom in June,



French resistance: Hammond, right, and assistant, David Henderson, look forward to tomorrow's Arc

Generous has raced twice. He beat Suave Dancer by three lengths in the Irish Derby despite having to make much of the running and, in a fast-run King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, won easily down by seven lengths after displaying an electrifying burst of speed early in Ascot's short straight.

On that July day, no horse could have lived with Generous. Cole says he has him "spot on" again so something will have to go badly wrong to prevent the roar of English voices tomorrow teeming.

The benefits of the warm sunshine drying out Longchamp yesterday were negated by Generous receiving the worst draw in stall 14. But with arch rival Suave Dancer drawn 12 and the field small compared with past Arcs, the

problem is far from insurmountable. "Psychologically, it's a bit of a disadvantage," Cole said, "but realistically it means we will be able to keep out of trouble."

Munro, hoping to be drawn in mid-division, was far from disheartened. He has been studying Arc videos and is planning to consult Lester Piggott, three times winner of the race. "I'll be talking to Lester before I go out," Munro said. "He said he would give me some advice after we knew the draw and that could be very useful."

Tonight Generous will be stable in France. The last time he encountered French hospitality he was upset by the noise from the nearby sales ring. With better luck this time, Generous will reach the

start contented and ready to run the race of his life. The rest is then in the lap of the gods - and the hands of Munro.

The jockey lacks nothing in confidence, but even he must be wishing he had been round Longchamp a few more times. "Not knowing the track means Alan will need to have an extra length in hand," Hammond commented. "It will be a handicap, however many videos he has seen."

In contrast, Cash Asmusen, rider of Suave Dancer, must regard Longchamp as a second home. From his number 12 stall, the five-times French champion will be able to keep an eye on every move Munro makes before attempting to pounce in the straight.

Hammond is the first to recognise the ability of Gen-

erous. "He is the best Derby winner I have seen in the flesh and, try as you may, it is virtually impossible to knock holes in him. If Suave Dancer and Generous run to their best form, the race should be between them."

The English-born trainer hopes his horse's increased strength and maturity, combined with the experience of Asmusen, will enable him to reverse the Curragh placings.

The two St Leger winners, Toulon and Saurage, look sure to run well but winners of the Doncaster classic have a dismal record in the Arc.

Pistolet Bleu, next to the rails, is an ominous threat and sure to improve for his recent trial. But Generous can overcome history and write his name alongside the all-time greats.

Magic Ring to shine

FROM OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT, PARIS

PAUL Cole's Magic Ring can provide some confidence for Generous by becoming the first two-year-old winner of tomorrow's Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp since 1978.

Without a speedster like last year's winner Dayjur in the 15-runner line-up, Magic Ring's exceptional pace can strike a blow for the younger generation.

French-trained runners have a dismal record in their own top sprint, but Divine Danse may be better value for the forecast than the likely favourite Raski Albadou, runner-up to Polar

Falcon in the Ladbrooke Sprint Cup at Haydock. Cole also has a chance of capturing the Prix Marcel Boussac with Culture Vulture, who lines up for her second lucrative prize in the space of eight days.

Between three-quarters of a length by Midnight Air in Ascot's Brent Walker Fillies' Mile, Culture Vulture was awarded the prize after taking a severe bump early in the straight. She looks a tough filly and is chosen ahead of Kembo and Luca Cumani's Red Ship, supplemented on the

strength of a stylish success at Ascot, eight days ago. The Grand Critérium today looks at the mercy of France's brilliant two-year-old Arzai, who should sweep away his opposition although David Elsworth is confident his Seattle Slew colt will win.

France should also capture the Prix Dollar, despite the presence of top English middle-distance performers Stagecraft and Zoman. The local hope is Muroto, a progressive son of Bustard, who gave notice that he had a big future when strolling home at Deauville in August.

Tertian enters classic picture

By MICHAEL SEELY

TERTIAN was top quoted at 20-1 to repeat previous victories by Knapen and Dancing Brave in the 2,000 Guineas for Khaled Abdullah after scrambling to a hard-fought win in the Newmarket Tattersall Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

Pat Eddery, due to start an eight-day sentence for careless riding on Monday, for a time looked to be in trouble when the 7-4 favourite was trapped on the rails with two furlongs still to run. But eventually, finding a passage through the reigning champion jockey forced Tertian home to beat Mojave by a neck. Wilder Road finished two lengths away third.

Trained by Andre Fabre at Chantilly, yesterday's winner hails from the same stable as Thursday's Middle Park Stakes runner-up Lion Cavern. However, the narrowness of the winning margin and the apparent lack of distinction of the opposition make it rather surprising that the winner should now stand at such a short price for the Guineas.

Eddery continues to ride like a man inspired. After winning the opening Boscawen Selling Stakes on Mister Bandit for Neville Callaghan, the champion elect went on to complete a 184-1 treble by winning the Main Reef Stakes on Rudimentary for Henry Cecil and the three-year-old, owner-breeder, Lord Edward de Walden.

Crucian was an uneasy 2-1 favourite to make a comeback from a four-month absence after chipping a bone in his off-fore knee when strongly backed for the Derby. He finished two lengths away second, after having been given by no means a hard race by Ray Cochrane when, in the clear, the winner had the issue well in hand.

"That was perfectly satisfactory," said his trainer Guy Harwood. "He's only been back in work for about five weeks and just got tired. All being well, he's still on target for the Champion Stakes."

Gordon, Abdullah's racing manager. "The alternative was to go for a race at Saint-Cloud, but he is a big long-striding horse and wouldn't have liked the bend. He is certainly a possible Guineas runner. He may not stay further than a mile because he pulls so hard."

Prize-fund Salzman, the owner of Generous, was the winner's trophy on behalf of his uncle with Magic Ring and Zoman to represent him in Paris as well as the Arc favourite.

He said: "I only got in from Saudi Arabia today, so I haven't seen Generous in any of his work but it is all very exciting and we are hoping for the best."

Robert Sangster, the owner of yesterday's runner-up Mojave, appeared far from impressed by the style of Tertian's victory. "I know he came over with a big reputation but the form seems to be about 100 below the top. I still think that Rodrigo de Triana is good value at 10-1 for the Guineas."

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Eddery, Tertian headed his Newmarket treble

LONGCHAMP

2.35 CIGA PRIX DU ROND-POINT (Group 1, £40,733; 1m) (10 runners)
1 62131 GODEFALK (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 20814 STAR OF ELKANAH (H de Winterville) 3-4-2 C Asmusen 9
3 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
4 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
5 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
6 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
7 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
8 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
9 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
10 12425 MASTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

3.10 PRIX MARCEL BOUSSAC

(Group 1, 2-Y-O fillies; £21,468; 1m) (14 runners)
1 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
3 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
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9 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
10 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

3.45 CIGA PRIX DE L'ABBEY DE LONGCHAMP

(Group 1, £21,283; 1m) (15 runners)
1 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
3 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
4 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
5 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
6 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
7 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
8 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
9 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
10 1151 KENNY HUNTER (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

2.25 CIGA PRIX DE ROYALHEUX

(Group 1, 2-Y-O fillies; £20,255; 1m 4 f) (10 runners)
1 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
3 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
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10 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

2.50 CIGA PRIX DU CADRAN

(Group 1, 2-Y-O fillies; £20,255; 1m 4 f) (10 runners)
1 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
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10 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

2.30 CIGA GRAND CRITERIUM

(Group 1, 2-Y-O fillies; £20,255; 1m 4 f) (10 runners)
1 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
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10 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

Hexham

Going: good
1 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
3 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
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9 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
10 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

Goodwood

Going: good
1 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
2 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
3 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
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9 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9
10 12103 GLEIS (D Thompson) 4-4-4 C Asmusen 9

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: LOW NUMBERS FAVOURED

4.25 CIGA PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE

(Group 1, £865,000; 1m 4f) (14 runners)

- 1 215-422 QUEST FOR FAME 28 (D.B.F.) (K Abdullah) R Charlton (GB) 4-4-4 W R Swinburn 87
(D c Rainbow Quest - Ayrone) (Green, pink and white cap, white sleeves)
- 2 213-111 SURGE 42 (D) (M Aubry) P Cole (GB) 4-4-4 T Quinn 89
(D c De Mure - Fendral) (Yellow, royal blue cross of Lorraine, armlets and cap)
- 3 1-1215 ART BLEU 21 (C) (D Widdowson) E Lelouch 4-4-4 C Aubert 76
(D c Legend of France - Ayrone) (Royal blue, light blue cap, light blue sleeve)
- 4 40811 EL SENOR 20 (D) (W Wright) W Wright (US) 7-4-4 M Kizane
(D c Valdes - Surtees Star) (Pink and white stripes, white cap)
- 5 1-12143 IN THE GROOVE 23 (D.B.F.) (S Cooper) D Elsworth (GB) 4-4-1 S Causton 88
(D c Night Shift - Pine Ridge) (Grey and maroon halved, sleeves reversed, grey and maroon quartered cap)
- 6 12-3342 MISS ALLEGED 14 (C) (E Fenech) P Barry 4-4-1 E Lagix 82
(D c Alleged - Miss Tuscum) (Beige and brown check, beige and brown quartered cap)
- 7 1013101 TOULON 22 (C) (K Abdullah) A Fabre 3-8-11 Pat Eddery 92
(D c Top Ville - Green Rock) (Green, white sleeves, pink armlets, pink cap)
- 8 112121 SUAVE DANCER 22 (C) (H Cheltenham) J Hammond 3-8-11 C Asmusen 85
(D c Green Dancer - Summa) (White, blue hollow box, white and blue hooped sleeves and cap)
- 9 12-3231 PIGEON VOYAGEUR 14 (D) (P de Mousse) A Fabre 3-8-11 F Head 79
(D c Saint Etienne - Homing Pigeon) (Black and yellow hoops, yellow cap)
- 10 11-4111 GENEROUS 71 (D) (F Salzman) P Cole (GB) 3-8-11 A Munro 89
(D c Caerleon - Doff The Derby) (Dark green)
- 11 111-112 PISTOLET BLEU 21 (C) (D Widdowson) E Lelouch 3-8-11 D Boeuf 82
(D c Top Ville - Pampa Belle) (Royal blue, light blue cap)
- 12 0-14122 JET SKI LADY 36 (D) (M Al-Maktoum) J Bolger (Ire) 3-8-8 C Roche 92
(D c Vaguely Noble - Barriess) (Royal blue, white chevron, light blue cap)
- 13 320236 SHAMSHIR 21 (Shahid Mohammed) L Cumani (GB) 3-8-8 L Dettori 81
(D c Kiki - Free Guest) (Maroon, white sleeves, maroon cap, white star)
- 14 442121 MAGIC NIGHT 14 (C) (H Yokoyama) P Demerouti 3-8-8 A Bachel 88
(D c Le Nain Jaune - Pin Up Babe) (Blue, red stars, red sleeves, blue cap)

BETTING: 5-4 Generous, 11-4 Suave Dancer, 8-1 Surge, 12-1 Pistolet Bleu, Toulon, 20-1 In The Groove, Magic Night, Quest For Fame, 25-1 El Senor, 33-1 Jet Ski Lady, Shamshir, 50-1 Miss Alleged, 100-1 Art Bleu, Pigeon Voyageur.
1990: SAUMAREZ 3-8-11 G Mose (15-1) N Clement 21 ran

Form guide to the 14 contenders

- QUEST FOR FAME**
Sep 7, Kempton, good: (9-7) nk 2nd to Young Buster (8-6) (5m 3f, group II, £28,876, 5 ran).
Aug 20, York, good: (9-6) 2nd to Terton (9-6) (1m 2f 110yd, group I, £14,407, 6 ran).
Jul 20, Ascot, good: see IN THE GROOVE.
- SURGE**
Aug 25, Deauville, good to firm: (8-8) best Crayon (8-4) nk with PIGEON VOYAGEUR (8-7) 1st 3rd (1m 4f 110yd, group II, £20,917, 10 ran).
Jun 16, San Siro, good: (9-6) best Eddery (9-6) 1st (1m 4f, group I, £155,374, 9 ran).
May 18, Newbury, good to soft: (9-5) best Sadegra (8-6) 1st (1m 5f 61yd, listed, £10,800, 8 ran).
- ART BLEU**
Sep 15, Longchamp, good to firm: (9-2) 4th to Splash of Colour (9-2) (1m 4f, group II, £20,367, 7 ran).
Jul 10, Longchamp, good: (8-7) best Avea Luce (8-9) nk (1m 2f 110yd, group II, £20,367, 8 ran).
Jun 14, Maisons-Laffitte, good: (8-9) 1st 2nd to Avea Luce (8-9) (1m 2f, listed, £12,220, 6 ran).
- EL SENOR**
Sep 15, Belmont Park, firm: (8-11) best Huseyan (7-13) nk (1m 2f, h'cap, £14,611, 4 ran).
Aug 22, Saratoga, soft: (8-6) best Rigmag (7-12) nk (1m 5f, grade III, h'cap, £21,443, 5 ran).
Aug 7, Saratoga, firm: (8-10) best Tess Progress (8-0) 3rd (1m 3f, h'cap, £14,764, 9 ran).
- IN THE GROOVE**
Sep 13, Goodwood, good to firm: (9-4) 3rd to Fila Arcus (8-11) (1m 2f, group II, £24,543, 6 ran).
Jul 8, Sandown, good: (9-4) 7th 4th to Environment Friend (8-10) (1m 2f, group I, £14,825, 7 ran).
Jun 6, Epsom, good: (8-11) beat Terton (8-0) 1st with QUEST FOR FAME (8-0) 5th 4th (1m 4f, group I, £32,542, 7 ran).
- MISS ALLEGED**
Sep 22, Longchamp, good to soft: (8-11) nk 2nd to Toulon (8-0) (1m 2f, group II, £20,367, 5 ran).
Jun 30, Saint-Cloud, good: (9-5) 4th 4th to Eddery (8-9) (1m 4f, group I, £152,749, 12 ran).
Jun 8, Epsom, good: (8-10) 3rd 3rd to Toulon (8-0) (1m 4f, group II, £25,542, 7 ran).
- TOULON**
Sep 14, Doncaster, good to firm: (8-0) best Sackler (8-0) 1st (1m 4f, group I, £132,749, 10 ran).
Jul 21, Maisons-Laffitte, good: (8-5) best Topanova (8-0) 2nd (1m 4f 110yd, group I, £40,733, 9 ran).
Jun 5, Epsom, good to firm: see GENEROUS.
- SUAVE DANCER**
Sep 14, Leopardstown, good to yielding: (8-11) 4th beat Environment Friend (8-11) (1m 2f, group I, £32,300, 7 ran).
Jun 30, The Curragh, yielding: see GENEROUS.
- PISTOLET BLEU**
Sep 14, Leopardstown, good to yielding: (8-11) 4th beat Environment Friend (8-11) (1m 2f, group I, £32,300, 7 ran).
Jun 30, The Curragh, yielding: see GENEROUS.
- JET SKI LADY**
Aug 21, York, good: (8-11) sh 1st 2nd to Magnificent Star (8-11) with SHAMSHIR (8-11) 3rd (1m 4f, group I, £17,540, 7 ran).
Jul 13, The Curragh, good: (8-0) 1st 2nd to Possessive Dancer (8-0) (1m 4f, group I, £121,200, 10 ran).
Jun 8, Epsom, good: (8-0) beat Toulon (8-0) 1st (1m 4f, group I, £147,500, 9 ran).
- SHAMSHIR**
Sep 15, Longchamp, good to firm: SEE MAGIC NIGHT.
Aug 21, York, good: see JET SKI LADY.
- PIGEON VOYAGEUR**
Sep 22, San Siro, good: (9-2) beat Ratsnapora (9-2) 4th (1m 4f, group I, £102,687, 11 ran).
Aug 25, Deauville, good to firm: see SURGE.
- MAGIC NIGHT**
Aug 8, Deauville, good to soft: (8-7) 4th 2nd to Aelan Fapi (9-5) (1m 4f 110yd, listed, £12,220, 12 ran).
Apr 7, Longchamp, good to soft: see PISTOLET BLEU.
- GENEROUS**
Jul 27, Ascot, good: (8-8) beat Sangamora (9-7) 7th (1m 4f, group I, £27,480, 9 ran).
Jun 30, The Curragh, yielding: (9-0)

3.20 SOUTH EAST ENGLAND TOURIST BOARD MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES

- (2-Y-O, £3,675; 7f) (18)
1 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
2 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
3 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
4 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
5 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
6 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
7 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
8 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
9 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21
10 02 BURPING POINT 22 M Prescott 9-7 G Duffield 21

2.15 GEORGE TODD HANDICAP

- (Apprentices; £2,742; 1m 2f) (22 runners)
1 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
2 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
3 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
4 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
5 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
6 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
7 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
8 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
9 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18
10 040 KEEP YOUR WORD 17 (F) M J Hunter 8-12 J Hunter 18

3.55 ISLE OF WIGHT STAKES

- (£3,482; 2m) (7)
1 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
2 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
3 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
4 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
5 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
6 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
7 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94

4.30 GRATWICK HANDICAP

- (3-Y-O, £2,340; 1m) (16)
1 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
2 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
3 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
4 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
5 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
6 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94
7 0501 DUTCH LIP 16 (F) M Hayes 5-60 D Bign 94

5.00 EBF HAT HILL MAIDEN STAKES

Expectations are high as three home countries carry the burden of favouritism into their opening World Cup matches

Wales pin hopes on mastery of set-pieces

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WALES, obliged to name their team at least 48 hours before kick-off, left themselves with precious little margin before their XV to play Western Samoa at Cardiff Arms Park tomorrow was announced yesterday. For that, given their recent casualty list, they can scarcely be blamed. When it emerged, the team contained one new cap in Ken Waters, the Newbridge hooker.

Waters, aged 29, takes over from Garin Jenkins, of Pontypool, who played in the 22-9 defeat by France last month. The other change is in the second row where Phil May, now 35, wins his seventh cap — his first six having come in 1988 — ahead of Paul Arnold. Such has been May's contribution to the forward build-up, and so extensive his experience, that Alan Davies, the coach, had no doubt about his inclusion.

"Age is not a concern for us," Davies said before his squad watched their other Pool 3 opponents, Australia and Argentina, do battle at Stradey Park. "We have simply picked players to do a particular job in those positions." That includes the preference of Ritchie Collins at open-side flanker, where he can build on that outstanding performance of a month ago.



Waters: wins first cap

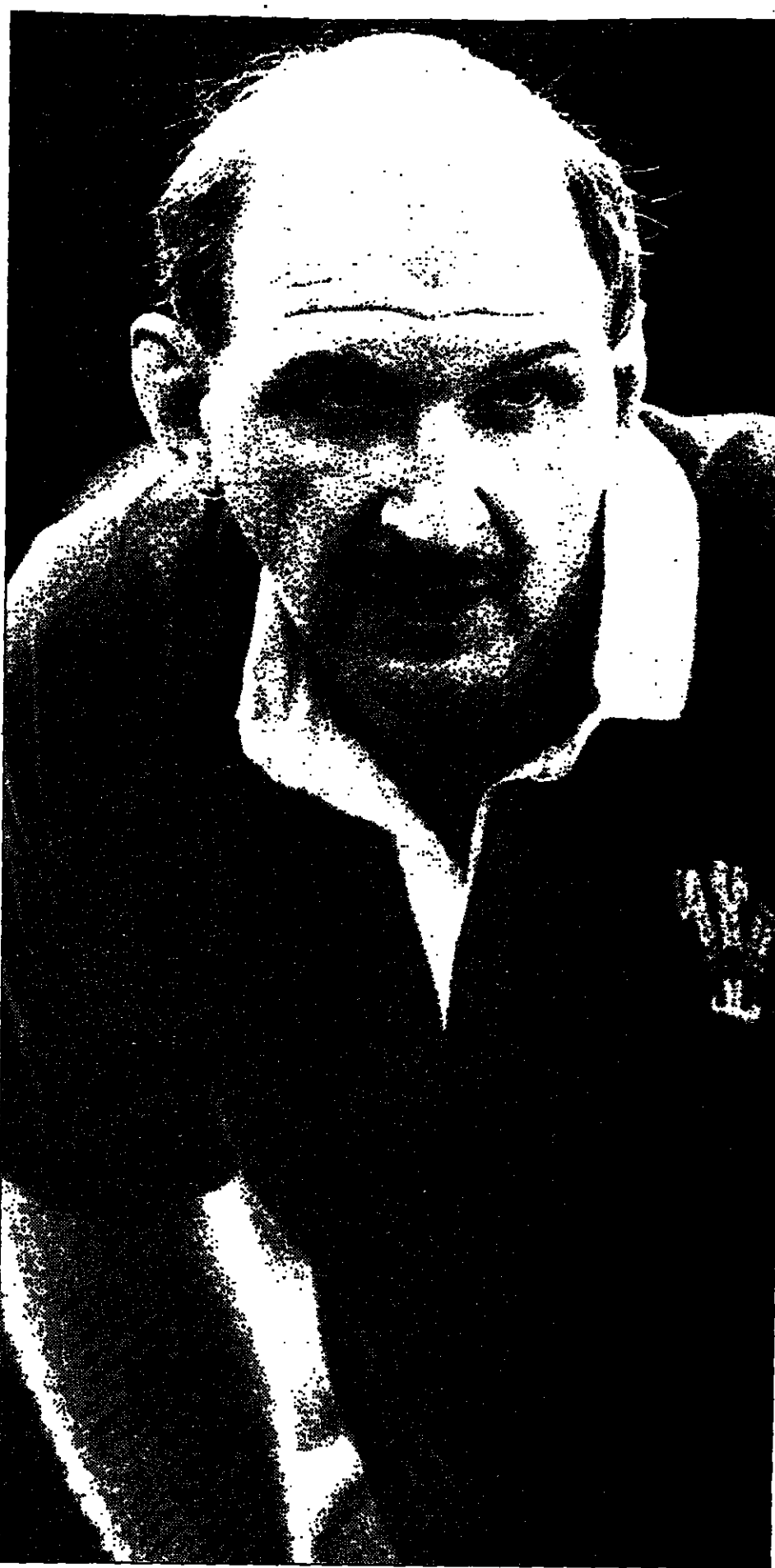
As they did against the French, Wales have set out their stall in the set-pieces, where they must surely hope to dominate smaller and lighter opponents. The Samoans, despite the late addition to their squad of Mata'afa Keenan, do not offer comparable physique, though they do have considerable experience of quality rugby with a number of New Zealand-based players in their side.

Keenan, Fatialofa, the captain, Lam and Bunce have all appeared in Auckland's ranks. Timo Tagaloa has won golden opinions by his play on the wing for Wellington, and Stephen Bachop, whose brother, Graeme, played so well for New Zealand on Thursday, has appeared with distinction for Canterbury.

Many fingers will be crossed on Wales's behalf. Not until Thursday did they come through a training session unscathed. At various times Ieuan Evans, the captain, Mark Ring and Kevin Moseley of tomorrow's team have appeared doubtful through injury. Ring, the playmaker, has been obliged to make a remarkably quick recovery from a knee operation, and the Samoans will be quick to test his durability. But if he can find some freedom, then his midfield will bring the best out of the Samoan defence.

Conversely, defeat, in a year which has offered only a draw with Ireland for comfort, cannot be contemplated by Wales. Their minimum objective is a place in the quarter-finals which, under the existing regulations, would ensure seeding to the 1995 tournament. If they cannot defeat the Samoans they are as likely to struggle against Argentina, who yesterday made the Australians work hard for victory.

Competition, page 37



May: recalled to the second row, his experience could be crucial to Welsh hopes

Eager Scots to adopt a positive approach

By ALAN LORIMER

SCOTLAND begin their World Cup programme today at Murrayfield, where they face Japan in the opening match of Pool 2.

David Sole, the Scotland captain, summed up the feeling of readiness within the squad yesterday when he said: "We've been together for a week, and after watching the opening match between England and New Zealand on television the players can't wait to get into the tournament."

Ian McGeechan, the Scotland coach, talked at length about the strict interpretation of law 18, which relates to tackling and lying with, on or near the ball, and its implications for Scotland's approach to the game.

"We have got to think to make the most out of the law, but the onus is on players to make positive decisions and to react carefully in contact situations," he said. "Overall, the emphasis on players to stay on their feet favours rugby."



Importantly, it speeds up the game and ousters those who slow things down by killing the ball on the ground.

McGeechan said the England v New Zealand match emphasised the need for flexibility. "You need senior players to be assessing strategy throughout the game. We have the kind of players who can make critical decisions on their feet," he said.

It was that kind of collective leadership which was lacking in the Scotland side when Japan achieved their deserved 28-24 victory over the Scots two years

ago in Tokyo. Japan showed then that by varying their lineout tactics to counter Scotland's height, and by moving the ball wide at speed, they could be more than capable in attack.

Sniggy Konno, the Japan manager, emphasised that point earlier this week when he said that Japan's play was all about attack. "If we can prevent our opponents from scoring more than 25 points we always feel we have a chance to win," he said.

Certainly, Japan have no shortage of class tactics. Seiji Hirose, their centre and captain, is likely to be the most influential player in their back line, as the Scots will recall, Eiji Kuroki, the outside centre, and Yoshito Yoshida, the left wing, both of whom are experienced players, caused them problems in 1989.

A repeat of that defeat is unlikely, and the Scots, who are likely to be the more ambitious team, can reflect on their 33-18 win in 1986, when Japan last played at Murrayfield.

Irish left in dark over Zimbabwe

From BRYAN STILES IN DUBLIN

THE runner with the forked stick carrying the message from Africa has lost his way and seemingly cannot find Ireland. The Irish team management has twice asked that video recordings of Zimbabwe — Ireland's first opponents in the World Cup — be sent to their training camp. Nothing has arrived.

The first parcel went missing after being posted a fortnight ago, so a second set of tapes was ordered to be sent by special courier. That should have arrived three days ago, but the Irish are left to fret.

The recordings show how Zimbabwe lost this summer to Namibia, with whom Ireland also tangled with worrying consequences on their summer tour.

The Irish share the general concern about the strict attention being paid by referees to the killing of the ball on the ground, but as it is usually teams under pressure which give away the penalties, they feel it will be the ones to suffer tomorrow at Lansdowne Road.

The heavier and more technically proficient Irish pack should win more possession

from the lineouts, rucks and maels to enable their three free-scoring backs, Simon Geoghegan, Keith Crossan and Jim Staples, to run in a handful of tries.

A crowd of 35,000 is predicted, and there will not be many Zimbabwean supporters in evidence, so the visitors are likely to feel the pressure. Zimbabwe will be missing Nyala, the flanker, who has been laid low by viral influenza. It has meant reshuffling their meagre resources in the pack.

When the Zimbabwe team was announced yesterday, Brian Murphy, their coach, gave an honest appraisal of his team's attitude going into the match. "We are approaching the game with caution," he said. "We are expected to lose, but we are not going in just to avoid having a big score against us. We are going in to play decent rugby."

Zimbabwe failed to win one of their 1987 World Cup matches, and Murphy feels the team has slipped further back since then, with players retiring and the lack of stars and competition. If that is an accurate assessment, then Ireland should romp home.

Teams keen to impress

ITALY and the United States meet for the first time today in Pool 1 at Cross Green, Oley, and will try to show the Yorkshire crowd they are not in the tournament as make-weights.

In Bayonne tonight, the winners of the Fiji-Canada match will take pool position for a place in the quarter-finals.

ITALY: L. Tolari, P. Vacci, F. Gualtieri, S. Barba, M. Gualtieri, D. Dominguez, J. Francescato, M. Gualtieri, G. Ruffini, P. Rossi, C. Chiosso, G. Gualtieri, R. Favaro, R. Sisti, G. Zanon (capt).

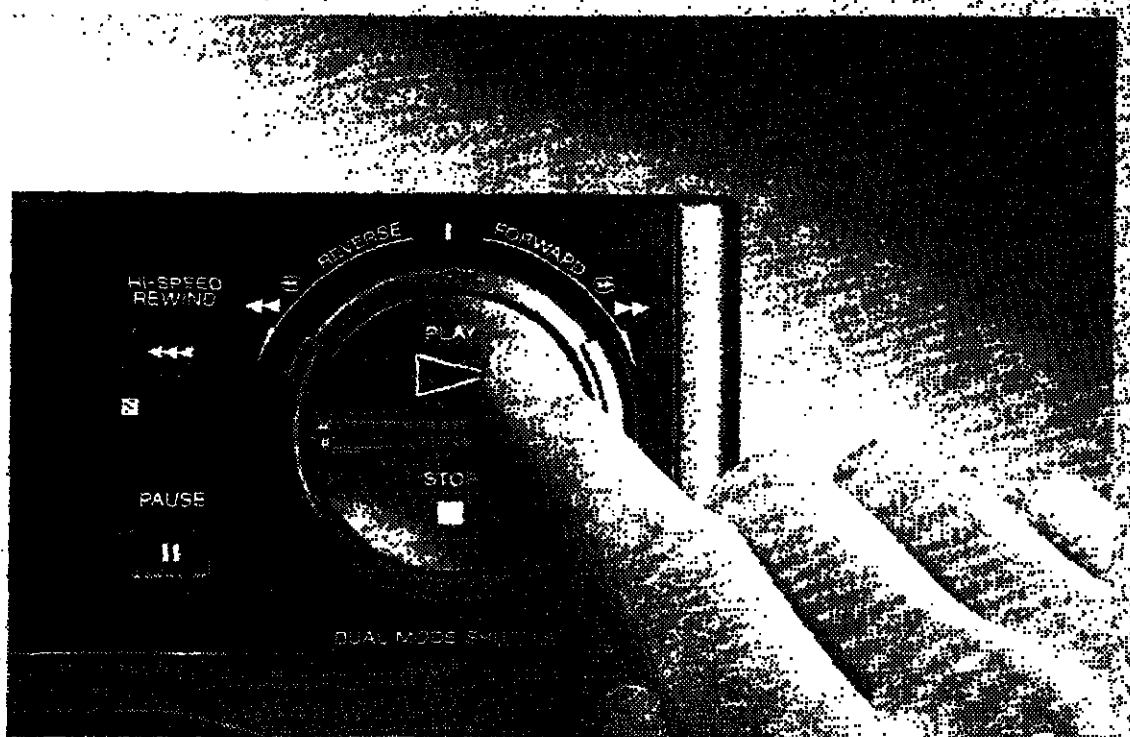
UNITED STATES: R. Nelson, G. Hahn, M. Williams, K. Higbee, E. Williams, M. Hahn, B. Dally, C. Lippert, A. Flay, F. Flay, B. Vind, W. Levenson, K. Swartz, R. Farley, A. Sisti.

CANADA: S. Stewart, P. Palmer, C. Stewart, J. Lacey, S. Gray, G. Fraser, C. Tyrer, E. Evans, D. Spence, G. Jackson, A. Channon, J. Robertson, M. Haddy, G. MacGillivray, G. Sisti (capt).
FIJI: K. Koronadua, F. Seta, S. Afa, A. Nodua, T. Low, W. Seta, P. Tabaibua, M. Tapa (capt), S. Nodua, L. Kato, J. Seta, S. Donohi, J. Tavaia.

Stirling lines out

Those who watched England's changing-room preparations against New Zealand on Thursday, though they have been deeply impressed by the excerpts from Henry V which were heard. The men in white (and blue and red stripes) did not, however, hear such stirring exhortations on Thursday, though they have had, since the excerpts were taken by ITV from motivational tapes used by the team.

Control Australia's forwards with one finger.



Play. Stop. Fast Forward. Rewind. On the new Sony SLV615 video recorder (and remote control) just one dial can control all these functions, as well as others. It's by far the easiest (and safest) way to push the Wallabies around.



Sony is a registered trade mark of the Sony Corporation

Wales				W Samoa				Scotland				Japan			
A Clement	15	Full back		A Aloalo	15	Full back		A G Hastings	15	Full back		T Hosokawa	15		
I C Evans	14	Right wing		B Lima	14	Right wing		A G Stanger	14	Right wing		T Masuho	14		
I S Gibbs	13	Right centre		T Vasea	13	Right centre		S Hastings	13	Right centre		E Kusuiki	13		
M R Hall	12	Left centre		F Bunce	12	Left centre		S R P Linean	12	Left centre		S Hiroo	12		
A Emyr	11	Left wing		T Tagaloa	11	Left wing		I Tukalo	11	Left wing		Y Yoshida	11		
M G Ring	10	Stand-off		S J Bachop	10	Stand-off		C M Chalmers	10	Stand-off		K Matsuo	10		
R N Jones	9	Scrum half		M M Vasa	9	Scrum half		G Armstrong	9	Scrum half		W Murata	9		
M Griffiths	8	Prop		P Patsioka	8	Prop		D M B Sola	8	Prop		O Ohta	8		
K Waters	7	Hooker		S Toomelahti	7	Hooker		J Allan	7	Hooker		M Kurita	7		
L Delaney	6	Prop		T Slo	6	Prop		A P Burnell	6	Prop		M Takura	6		
E W Lewis	5	Flanker		S Valtale	5	Flanker		J Jeffrey	5	Flanker		H Kajihara	5		
P S May	4	Lock		M S Blunthistle	4	Lock		C A Gray	4	Lock		T Hayashi	4		
K Moseley	3	Lock		M G Keenan	3	Lock		G W Wair	3	Lock		E Tifaga	3		
R G Collins	2	Flanker		A Perrelli	2	Flanker		F Calder	2	Flanker		S Nakashima	2		
P T Davies	1	No. 8		P R Lam	1	No. 8		D B White	1	No. 8		S Lahu	1		

Ireland				Zimbabwe				Pool 1				Pool 2			
J E Staples	15	Full back		B Curran	15	Full back		N Zealand	1	1	0	12	3	0	0
S P Geoghegan	14	Right wing		C Brown	14	Right wing		Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
V J Cunningham	13	Right centre		R Tsimba	13	Right centre		Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D M Currie	12	Left centre		M Letcher	12	Left centre		US	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K D Crossan	11	Left wing		D Walters	11	Left wing		RESULTS: England 12, New Zealand 18							
R P Keyes	10	Stand-off		R Kuhn	10	Stand-off		FIXTURES: Today: Italy v United States (at Oley, 1pm), Oct 6: New Zealand v United States (Gloucester, 1pm), England v Italy (Twickenham, 3pm), Oct 11: England v United States (Twickenham, 3pm), Oct 12: New Zealand v Italy (Lancaster, 3pm).							
R Saunders	9	Scrum half		A Ferreira	9	Scrum half		Pool 2							
N J Poppellwell	8	Prop		R Hunter	8	Prop		FIXTURES: Today: Scotland v Japan (at Murrayfield, 3pm), Tomorrow: Ireland v Zimbabwe (at Dublin, 3pm), Oct 8: Ireland v Japan (Dublin, 3pm), Scotland v Zimbabwe (Murrayfield, 3pm), Oct 12: Scotland v Ireland (Murrayfield, 1.30pm), Oct 14: Zimbabwe v Japan (Belast, 3pm).							
S J Smith	7	Hooker		B Beattie	7	Hooker		Pool 3							
D C Fitzgerald	6	Prop		A Garvey	6	Prop		Australia	1	1	0	0	12	3	0
P M Matthews	5	Flanker		M Martin	5	Flanker		Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D G Laminhan	4	Lock		C Boffa	4	Lock		Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N P Francis	3	Lock		R Dambion	3	Lock		W Samoa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G F Hamilton	2	Flanker		B Dawson	2	Flanker		RESULTS: Today: Wales v Western Samoa (at Cardiff, 1pm), Oct 5: Argentina v Wales (Cardiff, 3pm), Oct 12: Wales v Argentina (Cardiff, 3.15pm), Oct 13: Argentina v Western Samoa (Pontypool, 1pm).							
B F Robinson	1	No. 8		B Catterall	1	No. 8		FIXTURES: Yesterday: France v Romania. Today: Fiji v Canada (at Bayonne, 3pm), Oct 6: France v Fiji (Geneva, 3pm), Oct 8: Canada v Romania (Toulouse, 5pm), Oct 12: Fiji v Romania (Bordeaux, 5pm), Oct 13: France v Canada (Agen, 4.45pm).							

Ireland				Zimbabwe				Pool 1				Pool 2			
J E Staples	15	Full back		B Curran	15	Full back		N Zealand	1	1	0	12	3	0	0
S P Geoghegan	14	Right wing		C Brown	14	Right wing		Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
V J Cunningham	13	Right centre		R Tsimba	13	Right centre		Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D M Currie	12	Left centre		M Letcher	12	Left centre		US	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K D Crossan	11	Left wing		D Walters	11	Left wing		RESULTS: England 12, New Zealand 18							
R P Keyes	10	Stand-off		R Kuhn	10	Stand-off		FIXTURES: Today: Italy v United States (at Oley, 1pm), Oct 6: New Zealand v United States (Gloucester, 1pm), England v Italy (Twickenham, 3pm), Oct 11: England v United States (Twickenham, 3pm), Oct 12: New Zealand v Italy (Lancaster, 3pm).							
R Saunders	9	Scrum half		A Ferreira	9	Scrum half		Pool 2							
N J Poppellwell	8	Prop		R Hunter	8	Prop		FIXTURES: Today: Scotland v Japan (at Murrayfield, 3pm), Tomorrow: Ireland v Zimbabwe (at Dublin, 3pm), Oct 8: Ireland v Japan (Dublin, 3pm), Scotland v Zimbabwe (Murrayfield, 3pm), Oct 12: Scotland v Ireland (Murrayfield, 1.30pm), Oct 14: Zimbabwe v Japan (Belast, 3pm).							
S J Smith	7	Hooker		B Beattie	7	Hooker		Pool 3							
D C Fitzgerald	6	Prop		A Garvey	6	Prop		Australia	1	1	0	0	12	3	0
P M Matthews	5	Flanker		M Martin	5	Flanker		Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D G Laminhan	4	Lock		C Boffa	4	Lock		Wales	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N P Francis	3	Lock		R Dambion	3	Lock		W Samoa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G F Hamilton	2	Flanker		B Dawson	2	Flanker		RESULTS: Today: Wales v Western Samoa (at Cardiff, 1pm), Oct 5: Argentina v Wales (Cardiff, 3pm), Oct 12: Wales v Argentina (Cardiff, 3.15pm), Oct 13: Argentina v Western Samoa (Pontypool, 1pm).							
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Referee: K Lawrence (New Zealand)

Becker back

Boris Becker plans to play in the ATP tennis tournament in Tokyo next week after a five-week break because of injury. The three-times Wimbledon champion has been struggling with back problems as well as a high strain. Becker also plans to play tournaments in Stockholm and Paris before next month's world championship in Frankfurt.

Tottenham to change home date in Uefa Cup

Arsenal face a stern Cup test against Benfica

By CLIVE WHITE

TOTTENHAM Hotspur have been forced to change the date of the second leg of their Cup Winners' Cup tie after yesterday's European second-round draws in Geneva paired them and Arsenal with Portuguese opposition on the same night in the same country. All five surviving British clubs were drawn away in the first leg of their respective competitions.

A potentially explosive situation, particularly in the home legs, was defused yesterday when Uefa announced that in the Cup Winners' Cup, the return leg in London of the FC Porto v Tottenham tie would be moved forward or back by one day.

Arsenal have been drawn to meet Benfica in the European Cup, and Uefa officials confirmed that no changes were expected in that competition.

The police remain unhappy about two category A games being staged in London in the same week. The other option was that one club would be forced to play at home in the first leg, and the Football Association confirmed yesterday that it would have had to be Tottenham because the European Cup takes priority.

Any change, however, would have had to require the approval of the opposing clubs and the television companies. ITV holds the rights to screen either or both Tottenham and Arsenal games live.

At least Tottenham and Manchester United managed to avoid one another in the Cup Winners' Cup; United were drawn against Atletico Madrid. In the Uefa Cup, Liverpool and Celtic were also kept apart. Liverpool play Auxerre, with the away leg possibly at the Parc des Princes in Paris, and Celtic

play Neuchâtel Xamax, their first Swiss opponents in 17 years.

In the Uefa Cup, the ties between Dynamo Moscow and Cannes and AEK Athens and Spartak Moscow will have their away legs played first.

The return legs of the Sigma Olomouc-Torpedo Moscow and Genoa-Dynamo Bucharest ties were also expected to be changed. Neuchâtel Xamax were hoping to bring forward by one day their home tie against Celtic.

Benfica, who have twice been European champions, provide a tall hurdle for Arsenal to scale if they are to reach the money-spinning quarter-final round with its new round robin format which guarantees each side three home ties. It could have been worse, though. Arsenal could have drawn Sampdoria, the favourites, Red Star, the holders, or even Marseilles.

"Benfica will be a tough game for us," George Graham, the Arsenal manager, said. "They are one of the world's great clubs. Their league record was almost identical to ours last season. Like us they lost only one

game in 38 and conceded 18 goals. But they scored more than us.

"I remember playing for Arsenal against them in the Stadium of Light, which is magnificent. It helps to play the first leg away, because you want to know what you need to do in the second leg, and it is better to be at home for that."

His sentiments were echoed by Peter Shreeves, the Tottenham manager, but not by Alex Ferguson, the United manager. Ferguson, who has more European experience than any other British manager, did not believe that there was any advantage in being drawn away first until the quarter-final and semi-final rounds.

"We have learned the importance of scoring an away goal in European ties. Getting one makes life more comfortable in the return, but failing to score away leaves you vulnerable at home. We are just pleased to have avoided Manchester United in the draw," Shreeves said. "That would not have done either club any favours."

Jean-Pierre Soisson, the mayor of Auxerre, who is also France's civil service minister, said of the club's appointment with Liverpool: "I am not going to take the risk of having the match played at Auxerre and Guy Roux [the manager] agrees. What's more, I've already telephoned for free use of the Parc des Princes."

"On a sporting level, it's fantastic to have drawn Liverpool. We'll send special coaches from Auxerre and we'll give the Parisians the sort of great match they've been waiting for."

Rocastle revival, page 37
Liverpool's newcomer, page 37



Shreeves: pleased

SECOND ROUND DRAWS

EUROPEAN CUP: Panathinaikos v FK Gostivar; Marseilles v Sparta Prague; PSV Eindhoven v Anderlecht; Heracles Almelo v Sampdoria; Dynamo Kiev v Borussia Dortmund; Tottenham v Benfica; Arsenal v Lazio; Bayern Munich v FC Schalke 04; Ajax v PSV Eindhoven; FC Barcelona v FC Porto; Tottenham v Benfica; Arsenal v Lazio; Bayern Munich v FC Schalke 04; Ajax v PSV Eindhoven; FC Barcelona v FC Porto.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: FC Porto v Tottenham; Tottenham v Benfica; Arsenal v Lazio; Bayern Munich v FC Schalke 04; Ajax v PSV Eindhoven; FC Barcelona v FC Porto.

UEFA CUP: B1908 Copenhagen v

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Yorath feels confident

WALES will take on the world champions, Germany, this month with their finest chance of qualifying for the final rounds of a major championship. That is the view of Terry Yorath, the Welsh manager, who believes he will be taking the strongest squad of players Wales has ever had to the European championship qualifying match in Nuremberg on October 16.

A draw would leave Wales needing two points against Luxembourg in Cardiff to win the group, whereas a win would guarantee them a trip to Sweden before the final game. Ian Rush, Eric Young and Dave Phillips all return to the squad after injury.

Wales squad to Germany: I. Southern (Goalkeeper), A. Norman (Goalkeeper), D. Phillips (Defender), K. Fashole (Defender), E. Young (Defender), M. Ashworth (Defender), C. Day (Defender), M. Bowen (Defender), S. Davies (Defender), S. Davies (Defender), M. Phillips (Defender), B. Horne (Defender), M. Hughes (Defender), J. Llewellyn (Defender), G. Hughes (Defender), J. Rush (Defender), D. Saunders (Defender), B. Bristol Rovers, bottom of the second division, yesterday parted company with their manager, Martin Dobson. Dennis Roff, the first team coach, will take over for the time being.

Dwyer said.

Australia were a shadow of the confident and sometimes flamboyant team which held sway against Wales and England during the summer. Bob Dwyer, the coach, believed they were rusty after a month of not playing. "But we can take some consolation from scoring five tries when we didn't perform that well," Dwyer said.

But in concentrating on Australia, not enough attention had been paid to a motivated Argentina team. The Pumas, lagging behind 16-7 in the first half and deciding, with the noticeable weakness in Australia's scrum and indecision in controlling the ball at the ruck, were not merely cannon fodder.

Argentina, plugging away and simply surviving for 30 minutes in their own half, seemed to be a hopeless cause. But they challenged everything and with a combination of sheer persistence and snapping up such chances as Australia seemed complacent to squander, they nibbled away at the lead. To their delight and Australia's embarrassment, they found themselves only four points adrift with the last quarter remaining.

To reach such a position, they fashioned a try with the back row linking up with a blind side wing, Teran, which was straight out of Australia's coaching manual.

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the first driving scrums close to Argentina's line, Australia were expected to rule the powerhouse. Yet again they failed. Both areas are of serious concern to Dwyer. Even more so, I assume, for Wales.

Farr-Jones, the Australian captain, envisaged problems for the Welsh in their match with Argentina on Wednesday. "They will have to be on their game to beat Argentina and it won't come easy," he said. "The Pumas were very strong indeed in the scrum-mage and they were aggressive in the lineout and tackled extremely well. I think Argentina must now be one of the favourites to go through with us from this group."

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Lynagh kicked a couple of penalties, Argentina's only response at that stage being Arbuz's dropped goal. With Horan's try and Lynagh's conversion, Australia were well on the way to realising the early foundation they wanted for a high score.

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Out of my way: nothing within the power of Argentina can stop Kearns from scoring for Australia at Llanelli

Australia are made to battle

By GERALD DAVIES

Australia..... 32
Argentina..... 19

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